

CONFEDERATION AFRICAINE DE FOOTBALL

Regulations of the CAF Champions League

English Edition

# Regulations of the CAF Champions League

## I. Trophy

### Article 1

1 The African Football Confederation shall organise a yearly competition called «The CAF Champions League», open to champion clubs of the National League of Affiliated Associations .The 12 countries obtaining the best results in the clubs competitions during the previous five years will be allowed to register a second team, namely the runner-up of the national league. If the champion club is not engaged, the concerned country will be authorized to register only one club.

2 The Trophy, presented by CAF, shall remain the property of the Confederation and shall be held by the club winning the competition. It shall be returned to the Confederation one month before the date of the Final Match.

The winner of each edition shall receive a replica the dimensions of which will not exceed the 4/5th of the original.

3 The Cup shall become the absolute property of any club winning it three times.

4 If for any reason, the competition should cease to be held, the Trophy must be returned to CAF.

5 Each player of the two finalist teams of the competition, up to 30 players per team, shall receive:

<b>Winners:</b>	<b>Gold Medals</b>
<b>Runners up:</b>	<b>Silver Medals</b>

The medals shall be supplied by CAF.

6 Any person, physical or moral, who wishes to present a prize or an award to players or teams on the occasion of CAF competitions, must formulate a request to CAF at least 15 days before the date of the competition. The agreement of CAF in this respect is a pre-requisite to any prize presentation.

The players and teams of Member Associations taking part in CAF competitions cannot, under any circumstances, receive prizes or awards without the authorization of CAF, except those presented by their clubs or associations.

## II. Engagements

### Article 2

1-Any Association wishing to participate in the competition shall address to the General Secretary of the Confederation, an application accompanied by the admission fee of \$300,- (Three Hundred US dollars) to be paid in favour of CAF.

2-The application must reach CAF by mail, fax or e-mail not later than the 30th of November of the year preceding the Competition

3-The necessary original documents must reach the Secretariat on the 15th of December of the year preceding the competition, the postal mark of Cairo Post Office shall bear witness.

4-The application must include:

- a) The name of the club.
- b) The colours of the club and their order.
- c) The official classification of the national competition which has led to the qualification of the club.
- d) A list of the names of a maximum of 30 players and their local license numbers validated by the National Association, in conformity with the provisions of Art.26 of these Rules

5 System of the licenses:

#### **I. Online system:**

The federations will receive a link and a password communicated by CAF in order to fill on the internet the following information:

- Number of the jersey of the player
- Nationality of the player
- The name of the player as it appears in his official national identity documents
- The surname of the player as it appears in his official national identity documents
- The complete date of birth of the player (day,month,year) as it appears in his official national identity documents.
- The home address of the player
- Confirmation from a doctor that the player is medically fit to practice football
- The name of the last club in which the player was registered
- The country of the last club in which the player was registered
- ITC (International Transfer Certificate) shall be uploaded in case the country

of the last club is different than the actual one.

- The number and the date of registration of the player's license in his own Association
- The photograph of the player will be uploaded.

The said information should be filled in accordance to article 27 of the present regulations. After the deadlines, the system will not accept any registration.

CAF will issue a high quality secured license that will contain the main information of the players filled by the national association.

## **II. Offline system:**

The Federations will receive a CD containing the main information to be filled by the associations in addition to CAF secured sheets.

The federations shall fill the following informations on the CD:

- Number of the jersey of the player
- Nationality of the player
- The name of the player as it appears in his official national identity documents
- The surname of the player as it appears in his official national identity documents
- The complete date of birth of the player (day,month,year) as it appears in his official national identity documents.
- The home address of the player
- Confirmation from a doctor that the player is medically fit to practice football
- The name of the last club in which the player was registered
- The country of the last club in which the player was registered
- The number and the date of registration of the player's license in his own Association

Once all the above mentioned fields are filled, the federations shall print the information of each player on CAF secured sheets and stick the picture of the player.

CAF secured sheets should then be signed by the player and the general secretary. They should be stamped as well by the federation's stamp.

The sheets in question should be sent to CAF secretariat in Cairo in accordance to article 27 of the present regulations. The concerned federations should indicate to CAF the AWB number or the express mail number.

CAF will issue a high quality secured license that will contain the main information of the players filled by the national association.

6 If the champion club is not entered, CAF may accept the engagement of another club belonging to the concerned Association from amongst the first 3 of the

national championship, upon application which shall be submitted in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of this Association and with the present Article.

7 The holder of the preceding CAF Champions League is automatically qualified, even if it is no longer the champion in its own country. The official forms of the club stipulated in paras. 1 to 4 of this Article, must reach the Secretariat within 30 days following the Final Match. In this case, the name of the champion club must be communicated to CAF before the Final Match.

8 If the Champion club of a country is at the same time the holder of the Confederation Cup and wishes to defend its continental title, CAF may accept the engagement of the second of the national league upon application submitted by the concerned association. In this case, the federations having the right to enter two teams, can enter the team classified third in the national league.

9 Applications not submitted in accordance with the foregoing stipulations will not be considered and the concerned Association forfeits the right to participate in the competition.

### **Article 3**

1 The host association must ensure that the Pink Receipt Declaration Form 30 days after the match at the latest.

2 Every single day of delay in the receipt of these forms shall entail the payment of 20 US dollars by the defaulting association.

3 90 days after the delay mentioned in para. 1 of this article, the defaulting association shall be suspended and shall not be allowed to take part in CAF activities. This suspension will be automatically lifted as soon as the defaulting association sends the missing forms and pays the fines stipulated for in para 1.

## **III. Form and organisation of the competition**

### **Article 4**

The competition shall be played in two phases

#### **First Phase**

1 The matches of the Preliminary, the 1/16th, the 1/8th shall be played according to the «knock-out» system in conformity with Article 6.

2 The matches of the Preliminary, the 1/16th, the 1/8th rounds of the

Champions League shall be played in the same week-end (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) as the same round matches of the Confederation Cup.

3 If two clubs belonging to the same National Association inform CAF officially before the date of the drawing of lots, that they will not be able to organise both matches in the same week-end, the following measures shall be applicable:

- a) The Champions League match shall be played on the date fixed on the fixtures as determined by the drawing of lots.
- b) The order of the Confederation Cup matches shall be reversed.
- c) If the reversal according to para b above causes new conflicts in the dates of the matches of other clubs belonging to one and same National Association, the matches of the Confederation Cup shall be postponed for one week and shall be played in conformity with the order established by the drawing of lots.

4 If the holder of the CAF Champions League and the champion of the local National League (in case the holder of the African title is not the champion in his own country) inform CAF officially before the date of the drawing of lots that they shall not be able to organise both matches in the same week-end, the following provisions shall be applicable:

- a) The Holder of the CAF Champions League shall play its matches at the dates fixed on the fixtures & in the order determined by the drawing of lots.
- b) The order of the matches which the champion club of the country is to play shall be reversed.
- c) If the reversal mentioned in para b above causes new conflicts in the dates of the matches of other clubs belonging to one and same National Association, the matches of the champion club of the country shall be postponed for one week and shall be played in conformity with the order determined by the drawing of lots.

5 The eight teams eliminated from the 1/8th finals of the CAF Champions League will automatically qualify to play the additional 1/8th finals round of the Confederation Cup

## **Second Phase**

6 The eight teams which will qualify for the group matches will be divided in two groups of four each.

7 The seeded teams of each group will be determined by the Organising committee on the basis of the results achieved by the clubs of the country to which the qualified clubs belong in the previous CAF inter-clubs competitions.

8 The six other teams shall be assigned to the two groups by a public drawing of lots or according to the classification determined by the committee. The representatives of the participating teams shall be invited to the draw. Failure of such representation shall not debar the Committee from proceeding with the drawing of lots at the scheduled date.

9 The group matches shall be played in accordance with the fixtures established by the Organising committee. For the matches of each group, the following points shall be granted:

**3 points for a win**

**1 point for a draw**

**0 point for the loser**

10 In case of equality of points after all the group matches have been played, the classification of the teams shall be established according to the following criteria:

- Greater number of points obtained in the matches between the concerned teams.
- Goal difference resulting from the matches between the concerned teams.
- Greater number of goals scored away from home in matches between the concerned teams.
- Superior goal difference from all the matches played in the group.
- Greater number of goals scored in all the matches played in the group.

11 The two group winners and the two runners-up shall qualify for the semi-finals. The winner of group A shall meet the runner-up of group B and the winner of group B shall meet the runner-up of group A.

12 The runners-up shall play the first leg match at home. The two semi-finals shall be played in accordance with article 6 of the present regulations.

13 The winner of the two semi-finals shall meet in the final in accordance with the article 10 of the present regulations.

## **Article 5**

1 Up to the 1/8 final round, the drawing of lots will be carried out taking into account- as much as possible- the geographic, economic and sports conditions. As of the group matches, the drawing of lots will be an integral one.

2 Each team shall play against its opponent one match home and one match away. The team which scores a higher aggregate number of goals in the two matches shall be qualified for the next round.

3 The Host Association is entitled to play its home match in the capital of the

country or in any other city. In the latter case, the transport of the visiting team from the capital to the city designated for the playing of the match and back shall be borne by the host association.

4 If the distance between the capital city and the venue of the match is superior to 200 kms, the host association shall provide the visitors with an airplane transport to the venue of the match and back. If this is not possible, the match shall be played in the capital city except by agreement between the two teams.

5 By agreement between the two concerned associations, the two matches can be played in the same country.

6 The matches shall be played at daylight or under floodlight.

7 The matches cannot start before 14 hours and not after 22 hours.

8 In case of using artificial turf, the visiting team shall have the right to two training sessions on the playing ground, one at least at the kick-off time. In case watering the artificial turf is technically indispensable, it must be done at least 8 hours before the kick-off time. The referee and the commissioner will see to it that this clause is respected.

The matches must be played on natural turf or on artificial turf. When artificial pitches are used in the competition matches between teams representing associations members of FIFA or in the international competitions matches of clubs, the pitches must correspond to the Concept of quality requirements of FIFA for the artificial turf or the International Artificial Turf Standard except in case of a special exception granted by FIFA.

9 The matches shall be played in accordance with the laws decided by the International Football Association Board and promulgated by FIFA.

10 The venue of the match, the day of the match (Friday, Saturday or Sunday) and the kick-off time shall be fixed by the host association which shall inform the Secretariat, the opponent team, the referees and the commissioner ten days before the match. After this notification, neither the venue nor the day nor the kick-off time can be changed except by a written agreement between the two concerned parties and communicated to CAF.

The defaulting association shall be obliged to play on Sunday unless the visiting team accepts to play before. It shall also pay a fine of 2000 US dollars to CAF.

11 The National Association to which the visiting team belongs must inform the Organising Association of the date of arrival of its team in the capital city of the



Organising Country. This information must reach the Organisers one week before the date of the match at the latest. Defaulting Associations shall pay to CAF a fine of 500\$.

12 Except by special authorization from CAF, the two matches of the final round of the competition must be played in the biggest stadium of the capital cities of the concerned countries.

13 Except by special authorization from CAF, the group matches and the ½ finals round must be played in the biggest stadium of the capital or of the city to which belong the clubs.

14 Where a ground in the capital city is suspended and a National Association is therefore obliged to organise a match in another city, the following conditions must be met:

- a) Satisfactory means of transportation for the visiting team, referees and commissioners, either by air or by road, must be ensured according to the regulations.
- b) Travel must be made at least one day before the day of the match and at a reasonable hour of the day, unless if the visiting team arrives late.
- c) The match referees and commissioners must see to it that this provision is observed by the organising countries.

15 Countries in a state of war or victims of a civil war, and in which the internal situation does not allow the organisation of CAF matches shall be dealt with as follows:

- a) If the first leg match is to be played outside the country at war, then the opponent which will play host for the first leg, shall take the necessary measures for the organisation of the match (invitation of the match referee and commissioner).

If the visiting team shows up, only one match shall be played. In case of a draw match at the end of regular time, the winner shall be immediately determined by penalty kicks.

If the visiting team does not show up, the match officials will register the forfeit and the team which has not shown up for the game shall be eliminated from the competition.

- b) If the first leg match is to be played in the country at war, and consequently the opponents and the match referees and commissioner cannot reach the venue of the match, then the match will be played in 1 leg only on the opponent's ground, as per the provisions of para a above.

## Qualifying rounds

### Article 6

- 1 If after the end of the regular time of the second match, the two teams have scored the same number of goals during the two matches, the team which will have scored the greatest number of away goals shall qualify.
- 2 If the number of away goals is also the same or if the results of the two matches are nil, the winner shall be determined by penalty kicks in accordance to FIFA's laws of the game.

### Article 7

1 The financial conditions of the matches shall be determined by agreement between the two concerned Associations and they shall inform the Secretariat of CAF accordingly. Nevertheless, the Organising Association must observe the following conditions:

- (a) Reception at the Airport: A committee of officials of the host association must receive the visiting delegation at the airport and must provide all possible facilities concerning formalities. The visiting delegation must respect the International Laws concerning entry visas and health certificates. One official of the host association who preferably speaks the language of the visiting delegation will be at the disposal of the visiting delegation and will act as a liaison officer between the visitors and the host association.
- (b) Transport facilities: One bus for the players and one car for the officials will be put at the disposal of the visiting delegation from the time of their arrival to that of their departure. Any additional vehicles are subject to an early agreement between the two associations.
- (c) Accommodation: accommodation will be provided in first class hotels for the visiting delegation: one air-conditioned room with two beds and a bath for every two players, a single air-conditioned room with a bath for every official-except in countries where air-conditioned is not necessary. Officials and players of the visiting delegation are to be accommodated in the same hotel. The host association will be responsible for meals (sportsmen diet) and room reservation.

In case a visiting delegation refuses to stay in the hotel reserved by the hosts and changes the hotel on its own initiative while the match commissioner declares that the hotel reserved by the hosts meets all the conditions required by CAF, this delegation will have to pay the full board accommodation expenses of its delegation in the new hotel.

- (d) Training facilities: A playing ground will be provided for the training of the visiting team and will be put at their disposal for all their stay and at all

times. The field on which the match itself will be played must be put at the disposal of the visiting team for at least one training session 48 hours before the game or on the eve of the game at the time fixed for kick-off.

(e) Security Measures: The police service of the Host Association must ensure the security of the visiting delegation as well as of the referees designated to officiate the match. It is the responsibility of the police service to prohibit any invasion of the field, any attack against the players and/or officials in and outside the stadium.

(f) Seeing the visiting team off: Officials of the host association will see the visiting team off and will facilitate all formalities for him.

g) Accommodation of the match officials The referees and the match commissioner must be accommodated in a high standard hotel other than the one reserved for the two competing teams.

2 Except in case of agreement between the two associations, the delegations shall not exceed 25 persons.

3 If two associations cannot agree on the financial conditions of the match, the Organising Committee shall take the necessary decisions which shall be final and binding.

4 If the referee is obliged to stop the match because of darkness before the end of its regular time, and if a delay in the scheduled kick-off time is the cause for it, the team of the host association will be considered loser and will be eliminated from the competition.

5 If the match is stopped before the end of the regular time because of poor visibility following the late arrival of the visiting team, except in case of force majeure to be decided by the Organising Committee, the latter shall be considered loser and shall be eliminated from the competition.

6 If the referee is forced to stop the match before the end of the regular time because of invasion of the field or aggression against the visiting team, the host team shall be considered loser and shall be eliminated from the competition, without prejudice to the sanctions existing in the regulations.

7 If the match is stopped before the end of the regular time for reasons of force majeure and notably for poor ground conditions and / or bad weather conditions to be decided upon by the referee, the match is to be replayed 24 hours later at the same venue and with the same referees. All disciplinary measures (caution or expulsion) pronounced during the match will be applied in conformity with CAF disciplinary code.

If a team refuses to take part in the rescheduled game, it will be sanctioned in conformity to the rules of the competition.

The additional expenses of the visiting team and the match officials shall be borne by the host association.

8 For the matches played under floodlight, if the match is interrupted because of poor visibility following a failure of electricity, the referee will observe a delay of 45 minutes and then signal the end of the game.

The failure of electricity cannot be considered as a case of force majeure unless the score (taking the two legs into consideration if it is a second leg) is not in favour of the visiting team. In this case, the match is to be replayed 24 hours later, in conformity with the measures indicated in para 7 here-above. If the score (taking the two legs into consideration if it is a second leg) is in favour of the visiting team, the host team will be declared loser.

9 Where any host association does not provide the visiting team, the commissioner or the referee and his assistants with the facilities named herein, such association will refund the expenses incurred by the visiting team, commissioner, referee and assistant referees, and the Organising Committee will penalize such association in any manner it deems appropriate.

## Article 8

1 A commissioner designated by the Organising Committee must be present at each match.

2 The commissioner is the official representative of CAF who attends the match. In this capacity, he is entitled to a place in the first row of the main tribune.

3 If a presentation of the teams to the authorities is planned on the program, CAF commissioner must accompany the Guest of Honour. He shall present the referees and the captains of the two teams to the Guest of Honour.

4 On the eve of the match or in the morning of the day of the match, the commissioner must convene a consultative meeting (technical meeting) of the officials of both teams who must include at least one representative from each national association to whom the two teams belong, with the referees designated for the match. This will be a consultative meeting aimed at underlining and clarifying the main points of the rules governing the competition and ensuring the fulfilment of all the conditions necessary for the regularity of the match (control service, stay of the referees and the visiting team, proper qualification of the referees on the FIFA list, licenses of the players). In the absence of the regular referees designated by CAF, the commissioner will see to it that the stipulations of Art. 36 are observed and will have the match played in conformity with the provisions of the rules. No minutes will be taken of this consultative meeting. Any protest will be noted by the commissioner in his report.

However, a protest presented by a team not accompanied by a representative of the national federation to whom the team in question belongs, will not be taken into consideration by the match commissioner.

The commissioner must require during this pre-match meeting, the presence in the stadium of a representative of each Federation to which the opposing teams belong.

5 In the absence of the match commissioner, the referee designated to officiate the match will preside over the meeting stipulated for in para 4 of this article.

6 The commissioner will attend the pre-match formalities in the dressing rooms. He may, if he deems it necessary, go back to the dressing rooms during the half-time recess or after the match.

7 The responsibility of ascertaining the regularity of the field's dimensions and practicability, of ascertaining the regular strength of the electric lights for nocturnal matches and of verifying the players' licenses is exclusively that of the referee. The referee and his assistants are the only persons to control all procedures concerning the substitution of players during the match.

8 The match commissioner may, if he deems it necessary for the security of the referees or the visiting team, decide not to have the match played until his conditions and instructions are carried out. But once the match has started, it is exclusively the prerogative of the referee to suspend or end the match for any of the reasons stipulated in Law 5 of the Laws of the Game.

9 If any protest concerning one of the Articles of the Rules is submitted by one of the two teams to the commissioner before the start of the match, he must try to reconcile conflicting points of view within the framework of the Rules of the Competition. If, however, he does not succeed, he will register the protest on the appropriate forms and will make sure that the match is played in accordance with the provisions of the Rules, in conformity with the interpretation given by the match commissioner.

10 The commissioner will observe the match in all its aspects: performance of the referees, behaviour of the public, eventual incidents.

11 The Commissioner must send, by the most expeditious means, the result of the match to CAF Secretariat immediately after the end of the match.

He will send in the 48 hours following the match a detailed report to CAF Secretariat, indicating - among other things- if the match was televised live and if any protest was lodged by the teams in accordance with Art.21 and Art.22. In case the match commissioner is absent, this duty shall be incumbent upon the referee.

12 The commissioners who are designated must, as soon as they receive the

notification of their designation, confirm to CAF their acceptance to carry out their assignment.

13 If later on, the commissioners are prevented for one reason or another, from attending the match, they must inform CAF by fax or e-mail within a reasonable time for the Secretariat to provide a replacement. In case of force majeure at the very last minute, the commissioner must send by fax or e-mail his apologies both to the Secretariat and the host country.

14 The absence of the commissioner cannot constitute an obstacle to the playing of the matches at the scheduled date and time.

The commissioner cannot be replaced except by decision of CAF and in such circumstances the Organising Committee's decisions shall be based on the referee's match report.

15 The host association must inform the designated commissioner of the date and venue of the match 10 days before the match. It shall organise his trip, his stay and transport facilities until his departure. It shall ensure that an endorsable air-plane ticket reaches him at least 14 days before the match.

If in this delay, the commissioner does not receive the air-plane ticket, he will be authorized to pay his air-plane ticket and to travel to the venue of the match. In this case, the host association must pay to CAF a fine equivalent to double the price of the commissioner's ticket. The host association shall bear the commissioner's air-travel expenses, economy class (full fare), both ways, his sojourn expenses and a daily indemnity at the rate fixed by CAF and payable on the day of his arrival. If the appointed commissioner is CAF President or CAF Honourary President or one of CAF Vice-Presidents, the host association shall send him a First Class air-plane ticket.

16 If the absence of the match commissioner is due to a failure from the host association to observe the regulations:

- a) No protest raised by the Host Association shall be taken into consideration.
- b) The Host Association shall pay a fine equivalent to the double of the price of the plane ticket of the match commissioner, without prejudice to subsequent sanctions which can be imposed upon it by CAF Organising Committee.

17 The Organising Committee reserves the right to designate, starting from the group matches, general coordinators. These general coordinators will be responsible of all the aspects linked to the application of the publicity and television contracts signed by CAF. The expenses of travel, stay and indemnities of the general coordinators will be assumed by CAF. The national association will only assume the local transportation of the general coordinator

## Article 9

1 All the matches of the competition must be played before December 15th of the year of the competition. However, the Organising Committee may prorogate this date to January 15 of the following year, in case of force majeure.

2 After the grouping of the teams, a drawing of lots carried out by the Organising Committee will determine the order and venues of the matches. The team whose name is drawn first shall play the second match on its own ground.

3 The fixtures shall include the following:

- the number of the match
- the match: the names of the teams
- the venue of the match
- the name of the association called upon to delegate referees or the names of the referees.
- the name of the match commissioner
- the dates fixed for each match

4 The matches shall be played exclusively in the order established by the Organising Committee of CAF.

5 The dates fixed for the matches of the various rounds are final and cannot be changed except in case of force majeure recognized as such by CAF Organising Committee.

6 In case of a clash of dates between CAF matches and other matches organised on a regional, sub-regional basis or matches organised on special occasions, priority shall be given to the matches of C.A.F.

7 The postponement of the inter-clubs matches for the teams that qualified to take part in the FIFA World Cup competition is permitted, provided that the matches in question are scheduled to be played in less than thirty days from the opening date of the World Cup.

This postponement will read as follows:

The clubs matches in countries qualified to represent Africa in the FIFA World Cup may only be postponed in case the club which presents the demand includes more than two players in the national team of the country in question.

In this case, the matches of this club will be postponed, but must be played within the 40 days following the World Cup Final match. The dates of these matches shall be fixed by CAF Inter-Clubs Organising Committee, they shall be final and binding to all the concerned parties.

8 The postponement of the inter-club matches for the teams that qualified to take part in the FIFA and CAF final tournaments for age category competitions is permitted by the Confederation if the inter-club matches are scheduled during the age category competition, the week before or the week after and will be played in conformity with the following arrangements:

- a) the clubs which present the request should include more than two players in the list of players registered for the final tournament of the age category competition.
- b) The postponed matches should be played at the dates fixed by the CAF Organising Committee prior to the next round of the competition.
- c) This request must reach CAF at least ten days before the date of the inter-clubs matches.

#### **Article 10**

1 The Final Round shall be played in two matches, home and away. The team which will have scored the highest aggregate number of goals in the two matches will be declared winner.

2 In case of equality in the number of goals scored during the two matches and only in this case, the team which will have scored the greatest number of away goals will be declared winner.

3 If the number of goals scored on the «away match» is also equal, the winner will be determined by penalty kicks in conformity to FIFA's laws of the game.

#### **Article 11**

The inter-clubs Organising Committee shall hold one of its meetings in the country of the Association organising the second final match.

The President of CAF, the members of the inter-clubs, Referees, Emergency Committees and disciplinary board, as well as the General Secretary and his Assistant must be invited by the host association according to the provisions of Article 40 of these Regulations.

### **IV. Matches on neutral grounds**

#### **Article 12**

1 The matches on neutral grounds are only possible upon agreement by the two associations concerned OR by decision of CAF Organising Committee in case of force majeure.

This decision of the Organising Committee shall be final and without appeal.



2 Under these circumstances, only one match shall be played on a neutral ground with eventual extra-time and-if necessary-penalty kicks.

## **V. Withdrawals, sanctions for refusal to play, replacements**

### **Article 13**

1 The National Associations which have engaged their clubs in the competition take the engagement to play all the matches of the competition.

2 In case of withdrawal, the concerned association shall be responsible for the financial and other consequences to be determined by the Organising and Disciplinary Committee of CAF.

3 A team withdrawing from a competition or renouncing to play the second leg match after having played the first leg at home, shall refund the opponent a sum equivalent to the receipts which it could have realised if the match was played. The amount shall be determined by the Organising Committee on the basis of the average receipt declarations made by the concerned Association on the occasion of CAF matches.

### **Article 14**

1 Withdrawals declared before the start of the competition and until the 1/8<sup>th</sup> final round inclusive, shall entail a fine of 1500\$ in addition to losing the engagement fees.

2 Withdrawals after qualification for the group matches shall entail a fine of 2000 US\$ in addition to losing the engagement fees plus all financial prejudice resulting from this withdrawal.

3 Withdrawals after the team has qualified for the final match, shall entail a fine of 5000 US\$ in addition to all financial prejudice resulting from its withdrawal. If the withdrawal is declared after the playing of the first leg final, the withdrawing Association shall have to make up for all financial prejudice resulting from its withdrawal.

4 Apart from the financial sanctions mentioned in paras 1 to 3 here above, every club withdrawing from the competition after the establishment of the fixtures will be forbidden from participating in all CAF inter-clubs competitions for three years following its withdrawal.

## **Article 15**

In case of withdrawal of a team from any round, until the group matches, the opponent which it was scheduled to meet will qualify for the next round.

## **Article 16**

1 If a team withdraws after having been qualified for the group matches it shall be replaced by the last team it has eliminated. In default, the group to which belongs the forfeiting team shall be composed of three teams.

2 A team which withdraws after the actual beginning of the group matches, without playing all the matches of its group, shall be considered loser of all the remaining matches it was scheduled to play by two goals to nil.

3 A finalist team declaring its withdrawal before the two matches of the final round shall be replaced by the team which it eliminated in the semi-final.

4 If one of the two finalist teams withdraws from the second match of the final round, the other team shall be declared winner and shall be awarded the Cup.

## **Article 17**

If for any reason whatsoever, a team withdraws from the competition or does not report for a match-except in case of force majeure accepted by the Organising Committee- or if it refuses to play or leaves the ground before the regular end of the match without the permission of the referee, it shall be considered loser and shall be eliminated from the competition. The same shall apply to the teams which were declared disqualified by decision of CAF.

## **Article 18**

Cases of force majeure shall be decided upon by the CAF Organising Committee.

## **VI. The inter-clubs Organising Committee**

## **Article 19**

The inter-clubs Organising Committee of the Inter-Clubs competitions is entrusted with the organisation of the CAF Champions League.

## Article 20

The inter-clubs Organising Committee has the following power at all the stages of the competition:

- a) Ensure that all sanctions stipulated for in the present regulations, in CAF Statutes and CAF disciplinary code are applied.
- b) Taking decisions on all complaints. The decision of the Committee shall be based on the written reports of the referee, the neutral assistant referees, and/or the official commissioner.
- c) Fixing the dates of the matches of all the rounds of the competition
- d) Settling financial disputes between the associations
- e) Replacing, in conformity with the rules of the competition, the clubs declaring their withdrawal from the competition.
- f) Taking decisions in cases of force majeure
- g) Ratifying the results of the matches
- h) Designating the match commissioners

## VII. Protests, Appeals, Rights

### Protests

## Article 21

A Protest concerning the qualification of players must take the following course:

- a) It must be preceded by a nominal and motivated protest formulated on the referee's report, before the match, by the captain of the protesting team and communicated to the captain of the opposing team who will countersign it.
- b) It must be confirmed by a registered letter, by a fax message or by an e-mail sent to CAF Secretariat at most 48 hours after the match.
- c) It must be accompanied by a fee of \$1,200 (One thousand two hundred US Dollars). If the protest is sustained, the fee shall be refunded to the protesting association.
- d) If a national association requests that for players whose qualification is contested to be confronted, this association will have to bear the whole expenses incurred for the transport, the sojourn of the players and the officials accompanying them unless its claim is accepted and in this case the expenses will be borne by the association guilty of fraud.

## Article 22

1 All other protests are to be communicated to the General Secretariat of the Confederation within the 48 hours which follow the match by email or fax. A detailed confirmation by registered letter or fax message must reach CAF

Secretariat five clear days at most after the end of the match, the postal stamp of Cairo post office will bear witness.

2 The protest fee is fixed at \$1200.- (one thousand two hundred US dollars) which must be paid by the protesting association before the protest is considered. If the protest is sustained, the fee shall be refunded to the protesting association.

3 The decisions taken by the referee on the ground during the match on matters of fact shall not be subject to protests.

## Appeals

### Article 23

1 An appeal may be lodged to the Appeal committee against the decision of the Organising and the Disciplinary board but not against those stipulated as final.

2 The rights of the appeal are fixed at 3,000\$ (Three Thousand US Dollars). If the appeal is sustained, the fee shall be refunded to the Association making the appeal.

3 The appeal must reach the Secretariat of CAF by email or fax within three days following the despatch, by email or fax of the decision of the organising committee.

4 The appeal shall have no delaying effect except in financial matters and fines.

## VIII. Fraud

### Article 24

If in the three months following every match played within the framework of this competition, CAF is informed, no matter what the source may be, that a fraud infringing the sporting morality was committed by one of the teams, an enquiry shall be conducted immediately.

In case the assertion is proved, the following measures shall be taken:

1 If the fraud has been committed in the preliminary round of the competition and if it is discovered before the start of the following round, the last team which has been eliminated by the guilty team shall be called upon to take part in this round of the competition. The guilty team shall be suspended from all CAF competitions for two years.

2 If the fraud is discovered after the start of the following round of the competition,

the guilty team shall be eliminated from the competition in favour of its last opponent and will be suspended from all CAF competitions for a period of three years.

3 If the fraud has been committed during the final match by the club which has been awarded the trophy, the club shall be asked to return the trophy which will be awarded to the runner-up. The guilty team shall be suspended for 3 years from all CAF competitions.

4 If it is established that the National Association to which the team in question belongs has participated in the fraud by helping the guilty club, this Association and all the clubs under its jurisdiction shall be suspended from CAF Inter-Clubs competitions for a period of three years.

5 The cases not mentioned in this article shall be decided upon by the Organising Committee.

## **IX. Substitution of players**

### **Article 25**

Substitutes up to a maximum of three per team are permitted at any time during the match.

A substituted player can no more take part in the match.

Before the start of the game, the names of seven players - three of whom may be called upon to play as substitutes- must be registered on the match form.

## **X. Qualification of players**

### **Article 26**

1 A player who is qualified to play in CAF Champions League must:

- a) Possess a license in his club issued by its national association and registered in his federation on 15th January of the year of the competition at the latest for the 1st period of registration and on 10th August of the year of the competition at the latest for the second period of registration.
- b) possess a license issued by CAF.
- c) be qualified regularly in the national championship of the country for the club engaged in CAF Champions League.
- d) live in the country of the club for which he is playing.

2. A player is not qualified to play in CAF Champions League in case that he was registered with a club and then loaned by this club to another one unless he was registered again in the second period of registration.

3 A player who has changed his National Association (international transfer), his transfer certificate must reach the Secretariat of CAF together with his license by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January of the year of the competition at the latest. The players who have been added to the list in conformity with the provisions of para 5 of this Article, their transfer certificate must reach the Secretariat of CAF by the 10<sup>th</sup> of August of the year of the competition, at the latest. Every player whose transfer certificate will arrive late (at the utmost after the 15<sup>th</sup> January or the 10<sup>th</sup> August for the complementary licenses) could be qualified on the condition that the date of the transfer certificate be anterior to 15<sup>th</sup> January of the year of the competition and 10<sup>th</sup> August for the complementary licenses.

4 A complete list of a maximum of 30 players, along with the number of their licenses, validated by their national associations, must be sent by registered on the online system or sent to CAF Secretariat in case of using the offline system.

5 This list must be registered or submitted to CAF Secretariat (in case of using the offline system) before the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the year preceding the competition. It can be amended until the 15<sup>th</sup> January of the year of the competition, but after the 15<sup>th</sup> January the list becomes final and no new players can be added nor replaced up to the end of the competition, except in the case contemplated in para 6 below.

6 A National Association which has registered less than 30 players in January may after the 1/8 finals, between the first of July and the 5<sup>th</sup> of August of the year of the competition, complete its list up to a maximum of 30 players, provided that the additional list does not exceed seven new players.

The licenses of the newly added players (whose numbers will vary from 1 to 7), duly filled in accordance with articles 2, 26 and 27 of these regulations, must be registered through the online system on 5<sup>th</sup> August at the latest and after that date the system will not accept any new license or to reach CAF Secretariat by the 10<sup>th</sup> of August at the latest in case of using the offline system. If these licenses registered by the offline system, reach the Secretariat after the 10<sup>th</sup> of August they shall not be validated and the Association concerned shall play the remaining rounds of the competition with the players whom it had registered in January.

7 CAF Secretariat shall send the list of the newly added players to all the concerned Associations, before the 15<sup>th</sup> of August.

8 The provisions of para 6 and para 7 of this Article shall be applicable exclusively to the clubs which qualified for the group matches.

9 During the same year a player is in principle only eligible to play for one and the same club in the CAF inter-club competitions. However a player even though registered on the list of a club who has not been fielded in any match of inter-

clubs competitions will be authorised to play for another participating club in the inter-clubs competitions during the same year so long as all the regulations are complied with.

## Article 27

1 The licenses of the players mentioned in art. 2 of the present regulations should be registered on the online system or received at CAF secretariat, in case the federation is using the offline system, on 31<sup>st</sup> December at the latest of the year preceding the competition. The late registration or reception (in case of the offline system) for individual or all the licenses between 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> January of the year of the competition shall entail a fine of five hundred (500) US dollars. A team who has not registered his licenses (or sent in case of offline system) by 15<sup>th</sup> January at the latest, shall not be allowed to play in the competition.

Nevertheless the individual complementary registration of the licenses can be registered between the 16 and 31 January only if they are accompanied with a fine of 1000\$.

The players whose licenses were received in CAF between 16 and 31 January shall be qualified to play only the matches of the 1/8 Finals and onwards onwards in condition that the player is registered in his federation by 15th January of the year of the competition at the latest.

After the 31st of January, no licenses shall be accepted no matters what the reasons can be, except for the licenses submitted and received in CAF in accordance with the provisions of article 26 para 6.

2 The players' licenses duly validated by CAF in conformity with the provisions of Art. 2 must be presented by the officials of the two teams to the referee before the match for verification. Each team may check the licenses of the opposing team.

3 The referee must give back to the captains of the two teams all the players' licenses with the exception of the ones belonging to players whose qualification has been regularly contested by the opposing team.

4 All contestation concerning the regularity of the licenses may be subject to protest lodged in conformity with the present regulations and submitted to CAF Organising committee for decision. The licenses of the contested players will be retained by the commissioner of the match who shall send them to the Secretariat of CAF along with his official report.

5 If following a case of force majeure, a team which has sent its licenses to CAF where they were received in the delays mentioned in para 1 above, if this

team because of force majeure cannot present its licenses then the referee can allow them to take part in the match provided that they take photographs of the players with the referee and commissioner. The match referee must send these photographs to CAF Secretariat together with his report so that in case of a confirmed protest lodged by the opponents the photographs will be compared with the photographs of the licenses deposited at the Secretariat, as per the provisions of Article 2 of the present regulations.

6 If the non presentation of licenses as mentioned in the preceding paragraph is due to a negligence from the team, the latter will have to pay a fine of \$70 for every missing license card.

## **Article 28**

1 Every club may, at its own discretion, modify the formation of its team, between one match and another, even in case of matches to be replayed, provided that only the players appearing on the list submitted in accordance with the stipulations of Article 26 are used.

2 A player who receives two cautions shall be automatically suspended from playing the subsequent match in CAF inter-clubs competitions. This automatic suspension shall be communicated by the Secretariat to the concerned associations.

If the same player accumulates, later on in the same competition, two more cautions in two different matches, then the player will be suspended for two subsequent matches.

3 At the end of the group matches , the cautions that do not lead to a suspension are cancelled.

4 A player sent off the field by the referee is to be automatically suspended from playing the subsequent match of the clubs competitions without prejudice to the other sanctions which the Organising Committee might impose on him subsequently.

5 Between two sessions of the Organising Committee, the General Secretary, in consultation with the President of CAF, is empowered to apply disciplinary measures on all incidents registered on the official match reports, before, during or after the match, and this in conformity with the regulations of the competitions and FIFA Memorandum on disciplinary measures.

6 A player sent off the field by the referee in three matches of the same competition is automatically suspended from all the matches his team is due to play up to the end of the competition, without prejudice to other sanctions the Organising Committee might impose upon him subsequently.



7 In case of serious violations, the guilty player may be suspended not only from the CAF Champions League, but also from all the competitions organised by CAF.

8 Before every match, the Secretariat of CAF shall communicate to the match commissioners and referees the name(s) of the suspended player(s). In this case, the suspended player(s) shall be prohibited from taking part in the match. This prohibition shall be declared by the CAF match officials. Defaulting officials shall be sanctioned by CAF.

However, the tallying of these sanctions remains the responsibility of the national association and they will assume all responsibilities.

#### **Article 29**

A team which will have committed a fraud on the identity of a player or which will have allowed a suspended or non qualified player to take part in a match, shall lose the match and shall be completely eliminated from the competition as soon as the incriminating facts are clearly established by CAF Organising Committee.

### **XI. Colours of shirts and shorts- numbering**

#### **Article 30**

Each team must wear the colours registered by its club. The colours and their arrangement must be shown on the standard entry form for admission to the CAF Champions League and must be communicated by CAF Secretariat to all the participating associations before the start of the competition.

#### **Article 31**

1 When, in the opinion of the referee, the official and duly registered colours of the two opposing teams might lead to confusion, the visiting team must change its jerseys.

2 If the match is played in a neutral country, a draw shall be made to determine the team having to change its jerseys.

3 Every team must have a spare outfit available, other than their originally registered colours.

#### **Article 32**

1 The jerseys of the players must be numbered from 1 to 30. The jerseys' numbers must be identical to the numbers indicated on the players' licenses and this for the whole duration of the competition.

In CAF Inter-Clubs competitions, publicity on the players outfits is permitted, provided that such publicity is allowed by the country in which the match is being played.

The visiting team must always travel with two kinds of outfits one having publicity on it and one totally free from publicity.

2 Starting from the group matches, the teams involved shall not be authorized to wear publicity jerseys for the matches taking place on their own field as well as the matches taking place on the field of their opponent

## **XII. Publicity in the stadia**

### **Article 33**

Publicity for tobacco and alcohol is permitted on the occasion of all the matches organised by CAF within the framework of all its competitions, preliminaries and finals, provided that such publicity is allowed by the laws of the country in which the match is being played.

## **XIII. Referees and assistant referees**

### **Article 34**

Referees and assistant referees designated for CAF Champions League must be on the most recent list of International Referees and Assistant referees established by FIFA Referees Committee.

### **Article 35**

1 The Referees Committee designates by name one referee, two assistant referees and one reserve referee (all neutral) to officiate the CAF Champions League matches.

2 The reserve referee shall be a neutral referee figuring on the International referees list of FIFA. If needed, the reserve referee may be an international neutral assistant referee or an international assistant referee from the host country but designated by the Referees Committee.

3 If the designated referee is absent or becomes unfit before or during a match, he shall be replaced by the neutral reserve referee or the neutral reserve assistant referee.

4 If the reserve referee is from the host country, the referee shall be replaced by

the first neutral assistant referee and the 2nd assistant referee will become the 1st assistant referee and the reserve referee from the host country will become 2nd assistant referee. In this particular case, an assistant referee from the host association figuring on its list of International referees will be designated as a reserve referee for the match.

### Article 36

1 The National Association which organises a match shall inform the appointed match referee and assistant referees of the venue, date and kick-off time of the match, within the delays stipulated for in the regulations. It will organise the trip of the appointed match referee and assistant referees, as well as their stay in the country. It shall also put at their disposal a car for their local transportation. This car must be provided by the host association to the match officials from the day of their arrival until the day of their departure. It will make sure that the PTAs are sent to the match officials. The PTAs must be endorsable and must reach the officials of the match 14 days at least before the match.

Nevertheless, the match referees and assistant referees are obliged to use the PTAs which the organising association has sent to them. The match referees and assistant referees are in no case allowed to purchase their own air-plane tickets and ask the organising association for a refund on the spot.

If, the PTAs are sent on time by the host association and the designated referees fail to travel, a fine will be imposed upon the national association to which the designated referees belong. Any Federation which sends PTAs must inform the Association to which the referees belong of the dispatch of the PTAs.

2 In the absence of the designated referees, the visiting team must remain in the venue of the match up to 72 hours as from the hour scheduled for the kick off. In such a case the host association has to provide from a neighbouring neutral association, the early arrival, within these 72 hours, of international referees, to allow the match to take place.

3 If within this proration, both the referees initially designated and those of the neighbouring association fail to arrive at the venue of the match and if the visiting team is accompanied by an international referee, the latter shall officiate with the assistance of two assistant referees registered on the FIFA list of International assistant referees belonging to the host association which will also designate a reserve assistant referee from the list of International assistant referees.

4 If the visiting team consents, the match can be played at the hour initially scheduled or before the end of the 72 hours with local international referee and international assistant referees designated by the host association.

5 In case the appointed referee and commissioner are both absent, and if the visiting team is accompanied by an international referee, the latter will officiate the match at the fixed date. He will be assisted by 2 assistant referees and a reserve registered on the FIFA list of referees and assistant referees and belonging to the host association.

If the visiting team is not accompanied by an international referee, the provisions of Article 35.1 shall be applied and CAF informed.

Any international or national referee accompanying a visiting team, shall refrain from penetrating in the field of play or the dressing rooms of the players, before, during or after the game. He should follow the game from the VIP tribune and refrain from interfering at any time in the smooth running of the game. In default, he will be severely sanctioned.

6 The new expenses incurred in cases of extension of stay of the visiting team at the venue of the match following the absence or late arrival of the referees, shall be borne by the host association.

### **Article 37**

1 If after the playing of the match in the conditions referred to in Article 36, it is established that the absence of the designated referees was the fault of the host association, the host team shall be declared loser by 2 to zero and shall be eliminated from the competition, irrespective of the result obtained on the field.

2 A national association which substitutes the referees or assistant referees designated by CAF, except for the cases mentioned in Article 36, shall be considered loser.

### **Article 38**

The referees must send to CAF Secretariat-within 48 hours following the match and by registered mail-their report on the special CAF blue form accompanied by the list of the main and substitute players.

They must mention the protests, if any. The protests lodged in conformity with Article 20 and 21 must be brought to the knowledge of CAF by fax or e-mail immediately after the match comes to an end.

The match referee must send to CAF, by the most expeditious means, all incidents that occurred during the match as well as the names of the players who were cautioned or expelled.

## **XIV. Financial Provisions**

### **Article 39**

An agreement shall be made between the concerned associations for the distribution of the expenses and the receipts. In case of disagreement, the two associations must observe the following financial conditions:

- a) The visiting association shall cover the travel expenses of all its delegation.
- b) The host association shall cover the expenses of accommodation, food and local transportation of the visiting delegation in conformity with Article 7 paras 1 (b) and 1 (c) three days before the match and two days after.
- c) The host association shall keep the gate receipts of the match.

### **Article 40**

- a) Up to the first leg of the final match (inclusive), The host association shall pay the expenses of travel, stay and daily indemnity of the match commissioner, referee and assistant referees, in accordance with CAF provisions. The air-plane tickets must be endorsable in the economy class full fare.
- b) For the second leg of the final match, in addition to the expenses mentioned in para (a), the host Association shall pay the expenses of travel first class and the stay expenses of CAF President as well as a daily indemnity at the rate fixed by CAF. The host association shall also pay the accommodation and local transportation expenses of the members of the inter-clubs Organising Committee, the Referees Committee, the Emergency Committee, the General Secretary and his Assistant as well as the disciplinary board who will be invited to attend the second leg of the final match.
- c) The indemnity shall be paid to those concerned in accordance with the prevailing dispositions, is due on the very day of the match.

This indemnity shall cover the general expenses (visa, food, taxi, etc..) incurred in transit. This indemnity must be paid in convertible currency.

### **Article 41**

Officials' expenses not paid for by the Associations:

If the match officials (commissioner and/or referees) go back home after the match without being paid the total amounts of their dues as per CAF regulations, a fine equivalent to double the amount involved shall be imposed upon the Association at fault.

## Article 42

Expenses incurred by officials who do not live in the capital city of their own countries:

If one or many match officials (commissioner, referee or assistant referee) live in cities other than the capital cities of their own countries, the Association Organising the match shall pay their travel expenses by plane (if the distance is more than two hundred kms) or by car; from their home city to the capital city and back.

## Article 43

CAF shall pay the following expenses:

- a) The international transport of the members of the Emergency Committee, the inter-clubs Organising Committee, the Referees Committee, the disciplinary board as well as the General Secretary and his Assistant.
- b) The daily allowances for the members of the Emergency Committee, the inter-clubs Organising Committee, the Referees Committee, the General Secretary and his Assistant, at the rate fixed by CAF.

## Article 44

The Gross receipt of the matches shall be generated by the sale of entry tickets.

The host association shall pay to CAF the following rights and dues:

- a) 5% of the gross receipts of the match at the preliminary, 1/16 and 1/8 finals, with a minimum of six hundred (600) US dollars.
- b) 5% of the gross receipts of the group matches and ½ finals with a minimum of one thousand (1000) US dollars.
- c) For the first leg of the final match, 6% of the gross receipt, with a minimum of one thousand five hundreds (1500) US dollars.
- d) For the second leg of the final match, 12% of the gross receipt with a minimum of five thousands (5000) US dollars.
- e) For the first and the second finals, 1.5% of the gross returns to the account of the SCSA.

## Article 45

1 The television rights belong to CAF. For every live transmission of a match, the host association shall pay to CAF, in addition to the dues mentioned in article 44 here-above, the following dues

- |                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Sub-group and 1/16 finals | \$ 750 |
| 2. 1/8 finals                | \$1000 |

2 For the delayed transmission of the matches on television, and if the match is displayed on the day of the match, the obligations imposed above will be applied.

3 For the delayed transmission of the matches and up to 48 hours after the match, the Host Association shall have to pay half of the obligations mentioned in paragraph 1.

4 If the television rights are fixed in a contract concluded between the National association and another organisation, CAF may demand that instead of the above mentioned amounts, a reasonable percentage be transferred in favour of CAF.

5 The rights of the group matches, the ½ finals, the final matches will be managed directly by CAF or by the holder of the rights.

6 For any match starting from the group matches, beside the places reserved for the delegation of CAF in the honorary tribune, the host Federation will put at the disposal of CAF the following number of tickets:

- 25 tickets in the honorary tribune.
- 50 tickets in the adjacent tribunes.

7 The host association will also put at the disposal of the visiting team, the following number of tickets:

- 10 tickets in the honorary tribune.
- 20 tickets in the adjacent tribunes.

8 Failure to abide by these regulations shall be considered as a violation of the financial provisions and shall be punished.

#### Article 46

1 The payment specified in these regulations must be settled at the official rates of change, in interchangeable currency on the day in which they are made without restrictions or special taxes.

2 Endorsable air passage tickets for officials designated to attend the match must be issued by the organising association and must be sent to the officials concerned along with the invitation giving them the date and the venue of the match.

3 The organising association must see to it that the air-plane tickets reach the concerned officials at least 14 days before the match.

## Article 47

1 The national associations are requested to make sure that the percentages due to CAF on the match receipts and the dues on television transmission stipulated for in Article 44 & 45, reach CAF within the 90 days following the date of the match. Defaulting associations shall have to pay a fine of \$20 per day for each day of delay.

2 If 90 days after the delay stipulated for in para (1) the percentages do not reach CAF, the defaulting association shall be suspended from all CAF activities. This suspension will be automatically lifted as soon as the concerned association settles its dues and fines to CAF mentioned in para 1.

## Article 48

1 Starting from the group matches, the publicity, television and broadcasting rights belong to CAF. They will be subject to separate agreements and free negotiations between CAF and specialized agencies of its choice.

2. The National Associations engaged in the Champions League shall put in writing that they will take the engagement of putting at the disposal of the specialized agencies all the necessary installations, the international signal (uplink) and sound to the satellite as well as the technical staff necessary to ensure the direct and regular transmission of the matches, in conformity with the terms of reference established by CAF, as well as having the stadiums free from any publicity.

At the end of the 1/8th final qualifying to the group matches, any team who did not transmit the above mentioned engagement will be automatically disqualified from the competition and replaced by the team it has eliminated in the 1/8th final (on condition that this eliminated team had filled the above mentioned engagement)

In return, the association fulfilling the above mentioned engagement shall be allowed to transmit live and free of charge the matches played on its territory starting from the group matches.

Any National association which can not or does not give the necessary signals towards the satellite will be sanctioned by CAF who reserve all rights to exclude the club from the competition.

CAF also reserve all rights to exclude the club from the sharing of the receipts of the Champions League.

3 The revenues from publicity, broadcasting and television shall be distributed as follows:



- a) 66% to the 8 teams qualified to the group matches taking into account their classification.
- b) 5% to the National Associations of the teams.
- c) 24% to CAF
- d) 5% for organisational expenses

#### **Article 49**

Any conflict relating to the liquidation of accounts shall be finally decided by the inter-clubs Organising Committee of CAF.

#### **Article 50**

A national association having engaged a club in this competition takes the engagement to:

- a) Ensure that all the members of CAF and the members of National Associations shall obtain entry visas and certificates of registration necessary for their stay.
- b) Ensure that the Statutes, Rules and Disciplinary Code of CAF are observed, particularly the financial provisions.
- c) Ensure that the engagements formally taken by the national association are considered as accepted by its Government.

#### **Article 51**

The Fixtures of this Competition as well as all the matches organised by CAF and all data related to them are subject to a copyright reserved to CAF.

### **XV. Inter-Continental Matches**

#### **Article 52**

1. The winner of the Champions League shall play against the winner of the Champion Clubs of other continents on the basis of an agreement concluded by CAF. The match can be played on a home and away basis or in one match on a neutral ground. The dates, venue and conditions shall be fixed by CAF.
2. In the drawing of the program, CAF shall make sure that the national and international calendars of the concerned teams are not affected.
3. In case CAF has signed a contract for publicity and television rights, the travel expenses of the African Champion Club to and from the other continents shall be paid by CAF.

After deduction of the organisational expenses, the benefits resulting from the selling of the television and publicity rights of the match played in Africa will be distributed as follows:

- 75% to the club
- 20% to CAF
- 5% to the National Association of the club.

If CAF signed no such contracts, the concerned National Association shall pay the travel expenses of its delegation to and from the other continents and will keep the totality of the gate receipts of the match (tickets, publicity and television rights).

4. The Club Team which is Champion of Africa shall pay for the visiting team's accommodation, food and local transport.

5. The Host Association shall keep the gate receipts after the deduction of the percentages due to FIFA and CAF.

6. A team which does not observe the above-mentioned provisions shall be held responsible for the financial and moral prejudices which could result of its abstention.

## **XVI. The Super-Cup**

### **Article 53**

A team which wins the African Champions League takes the engagement of playing the SUPER-CUP of Africa against the Winner of the Confederation Cup. They will play one match, in conformity with the specific rules governing the Super-Cup.

A team winning the CAF Champions League and refusing to play the Super-Cup, shall not be allowed to defend its continental title and shall not be allowed to play in any of CAF clubs Competitions for three editions when the club is qualified to take part. In addition, this team will have to pay to CAF the maximum fine imposed.

## **XVII The World Clubs Championship**

### **Article 54**

The winner of the CAF Champions League takes the engagement to represent CAF in the World Clubs Championship organised by FIFA during the same year.

## **XVIII. General Provisions**

### **Article 55**

- 1 The winner of the CAF Champions League must take part in the next edition.
- 2 Refusal to participate shall entail the following sanctions :
  - Prohibition to participate in CAF Clubs Competitions for a period of two years.
  - 5000 \$ fine.
  - Paying double entry fee to register for any clubs competition.
- 3 A club which qualified in a club competition cannot take part in an inferior clubs competition.
4. A club holder of a trophy and qualified to participate in a competition of a higher level has the liberty to take part in one or the other of the competitions for which it is qualified.

## **XIX. Enforcement of the Rules**

### **Article 56**

The present Rules come into effect from the date of publication by CAF Secretariat.

## **XVIII. Unforeseen cases**

### **Article 57**

Cases unforeseen in these Regulations are to be decided by CAF Organising Committee for Inter-Clubs Competitions.

## **The Regulations of the Super-Cup**

### **Article 1**

The African Football Confederation shall organise every year a competition called "The African Clubs Super-Cup" which will oppose the winner of the CAF Champion League to the winner of the Confederation Cup.

### **Article 2**

The trophy will be offered by CAF and shall remain the property of the Confederation. It will be handed over to the club winning the competition. It must be returned to CAF one month before the next edition of the competition. The Cup will become the property of the club which will have won it three times.

### **Article 3**

If for any reason the competition does not take place, the trophy must be returned to CAF.

### **Article 4**

CAF will offer medals for the two teams, the winner team shall receive 18 gold medals for the players and 7 silver medals for the officials and the runner-up shall receive 18 silver medals for the players and 7 silver medals for the officials.

### **Article 5**

This competition shall be played in one leg match in the capital city of the holder of the CAF Champion League, except authorization from the Inter-Clubs Organising Committee.

### **Article 6**

The Organising Association shall put at the disposal of CAF, free of charge:

- a) The stadia where the matches shall be played, empty of publicity, three days before the match and up to the day following the match.
- b) All the necessary installations, the international signal and sound towards the satellite, as well as the technical personnel capable of transmitting the matches live and regularly. In return, the Organising country shall be allowed to transmit live all the matches inside its territory, free of charge.

## **Article 7**

The match will be played in 2 x 45 minutes. If by the end of the regular time the two teams are at draw, the winner shall be determined by penalty kicks shall be taken in accordance to FIFA's laws of the games.

## **Article 8**

The Super Cup shall be played during January and February of the year following the year in which the two teams has won their continental title taking into consideration CAF competitions schedule.

## **Article 9**

Only the players who are qualified in the participating club at the moment of the match and whose names appear on the list of the club for the new competition which will be played in the year of the Super-Cup are eligible to play in this competition.

Each team must communicate its list of 18 players to CAF Secretariat 15 days at least before the date fixed for the match in order to allow the organisers to print the program of the event.

## **Article 10**

CAF, together with the sponsor, shall cover the travel and accommodation expenses of the following persons:

- The President and Members of CAF Executive Committee.
- The Honorary Presidents and/or the Honorary vice-presidents of CAF.
- The General Secretary and his Deputy.
- The referees appointed for the match.
- 25 persons per delegation (18 persons and 7 officials).

## **Article 11**

The daily allowance of CAF members and match officials shall be paid by CAF on the basis of the realised benefits.

## **Article 12**

The revenues coming from the sale of the match tickets shall be divided as follows:

- 50% to the two participating teams.
- 30% to CAF.
- 20% to the Organising Associations to cover the organisational expenses in the stadium.

### Article 13

The revenues coming from the publicity and television rights shall be divided as follows :

45% to the two participating teams.

45% to CAF

10% to the television of the Organising Country to help it cover the expenses of the technical facilities used for the transmission of the match.

### Article 14

A team which qualifies to play the Super-Cup but refuses to take part in it shall not be allowed to defend its continental title and shall not be allowed to play in any of CAF Clubs competitions for three editions when the club is qualified to take part.

In addition, the maximum fine which CAF can impose on a national association shall be imposed upon the defaulting association.

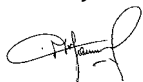
### Article 15

The teams playing the Super Cup are not allowed to wear publicity on their Jerseys.

### Article 16

Matters not provided for under the present regulations shall be decided by the Organising Committee for CAF inter-clubs competitions.

Issa Hayatou



Président

Hicham El Amrani a.i.



Secretary General

## ANNEXE

### Regulations

concerning the CAF Pre-match Procedures

All the matches played in the framework of CAF competitions are organised by the host country, for CAF and on behalf of CAF. Consequently, the ceremonies which are organised on the occasion of every match must be submitted to the instructions hereunder:

1. The two teams, the Referees and the Commissioner must be present in the dressing room 90 minutes at least before kick-off time.
2. The verification of the licenses or the passports is carried out inside the dressing rooms.
3. An official photographer must be available to take photographs of the players in case of contestation on their identity.
4. The keys of the dressing rooms shall be given to the officials of each team. The teams must enter into the dressing rooms during the half-time recess. The players are not allowed to remain on the ground or around it during the half-time break.
5. The players, accompanied by seven officials whose names are registered on the match sheet, shall come out of the dressing rooms preceded by the Commissioner and the Referees. Upon invitation from the Referee of the match, the main and the substitute players as well as their coach and an official must stand in line in front of the Tribune of Honour, 15 minutes before kick-off.

The players and their officials must keep their places until the end of the usual ceremonies. No other person is allowed to accompany the teams at their exit from the dressing rooms.

The flag-bearers and the fans are not allowed to penetrate in the area around the field of play.

6. The Commissioner of CAF welcomes the Guest of Honour and those who accompany him from the Host National Association. The Commissioner shall introduce the Guest of Honour: first to the Referees, then to the visiting team and finally to the host team.

7. It is prohibited to play the national anthem during CAF Inter-Clubs matches. A fine of 10000 US Dollars will be imposed upon each team that will have the

national anthem played during an Inter-Clubs match of CAF.

8. CAF recommends that the following flags be raised during the matches it organises:

- 1) The flag of FIFA.
- 2) The flag of CAF.
- 3) The flags of the two competing teams' countries.

9. The referee tosses a coin to determine the choice between the side and the kick-off, in any case the latter must start on time.

10. If the Guest of Honour has not arrived in time, the players will be presented to the CAF match commissioner and the match must start on time.

The attention of the Guest of Honour shall be kindly drawn to these instructions.

11. The retrogressive, irrational practices and all other ritual ceremonies are strictly prohibited.

12. Any violation of the above mentioned regulations must be mentioned by the referee and the commissioner in their respective reports. Defaulting Associations may be severely punished.

13. The match Commissioners and Referees are requested not to make any declarations to the press on the match.

14. The match Commissioners and the Referees should observe that these regulations are respected. They shall be assisted in this respect by the officials of the Host National Associations.

## **Meetings and Protocol**

### **National Mourning**

The inter-clubs Organising Committee as well as the Disciplinary Board meet every year on the occasion of the second leg final of CAF Champions League in order to prepare the fixtures of CAF Competitions for the next season.

All the problems which occur in the interval between two ordinary meetings of the Organising Committee are decided upon by mail exchange between the Secretariat and the Members of the Organising Committee. The decisions are taken by the simple majority of the votes expressed.

- The Host Country assumes the following expenses:



- a. The accommodation and local transport expenses of the inter-clubs, Disciplinary Board, Referees and Emergency Committee Members as well as the General Secretary and his assistant on the occasion of the meetings they hold on the occasion of the Champions League Final match.
  - b. Suitable meeting rooms equipped with simultaneous translation in the three official languages of CAF.
  - c. Interpreters for the three languages.
  - d. Badges for the participants: (CAF Members and Secretariat, Delegates, Organisers, Media and others.
  - e. The host country shall reserve rooms in the same hotel for CAF Members and CAF Secretariat.
  - f. The host association shall put at the disposal of CAF President, Members and Secretariat a certain number of cars for the whole duration of their stay and at all times.
- CAF shall assume the international travel expenses.

### **Facilities**

- a) Football matches programmed by CAF and organised by national associations give the right to the match officials (commissioners and referees), during their stay, to certain facilities according to the regulations (stay, meals and local transport)
- b) The national associations are held responsible for the respect of these dispositions whatever the result of the match.
- c) The retraction of these facilities from the officials before their return to their respective countries constitutes a breach to the regulations and will be liable to a fine of 5000 US\$.

In case of repetition, the faulty national association will be excluded from the competitions organised by CAF.

### **Secretariat**

The Organising Country shall put at the disposal of CAF Secretariat a room equipped with a computer, a printer, a photocopying machine, a telefax, mobile telephones and all the necessary material.

## **Protocol**

For any of FIFA and/or CAF matches, preliminary and/or final rounds, the Organising National Association shall make sure that:

1. The President, Vice-President and Honorary Presidents of CAF are seated in the Official Tribune on the right-hand side of the Guest of Honour, in the order of precedence in CAF.
2. The Members of the Executive Committee of CAF and/or the General Secretary of CAF who may be present at the event on an official or private capacity shall be seated in the Official Tribune.

The order of precedence in CAF has been established as follows:

- The CAF President.
- The CAF Honorary President (if such is the case).
- The First Vice-President.
- The Second Vice-President.
- The Chairmen of CAF Standing Committees in order of seniority.
- The Members of the Executive Committee in order of seniority.
- The Honorary Members of CAF (if such is the case).
- The General Secretary.
- The Members of the Standing Committees.
- The Secretariat of CAF.

## **The Cups and Medals**

1. In principle it is the President of CAF or his representative who gives the Cups and the medals to the winners.
2. In the presence of the Head of State or his representative, the President of CAF shall invite him to give-on behalf of CAF- the Cups and the Medals to the winners.
3. The President of CAF gives the medals one by one to the Guest of Honour for presentation to each player.
4. When the players appear in front of the Guest of Honour, the President of CAF gives the Cup to the Guest of Honour who will present it to the captain of the winning team.

## **Refusal to show up for ceremonial protocols**

Teams engaged in CAF competitions have the obligation to show up for the

ceremonial protocols.

In case of disregard of this disposition, the team at fault will be fined 5000 US\$.

### **National Mourning**

When a national mourning is declared in a country, the matches organised in the framework of CAF Competitions may be postponed for a maximum of one week, upon the request of the Organising Country.

In such a case, the Organising Country must use the most expeditious means to inform CAF, the opposing team, the commissioner and the referees.

In case the national mourning is declared during the presence of the opposing team on the spot, the match may be postponed for a maximum of 72 hours, upon the request of the Organising Country.

The players may wear a black armband as a sign of mourning. A one minute silence shall be observed in memory of the deceased. The referee is responsible for this ceremony.

The additional expenses of accommodation, food and daily indemnities for the match commissioner and referees incurred because of the postponement of the match shall be covered by the Organising Country.