



TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS



TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS 2023

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TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS 2023

INTRODUCTION

1. LEAGUES CUP

- 1.1. These regulations (the "**Tournament Regulations**") govern the official annual tournament between Major League Soccer ("**MLS**") clubs and LIGA BBVA MX ("**LIGA MX**") clubs known as "Leagues Cup" (the "**Tournament**" or "**Competition**").
- 1.2. The Tournament has been sanctioned by the Confederation of North America, Central America, and Caribbean Association Football ("**Concacaf**") and will serve as a qualifier for the Knockout Stage of the Concacaf Champions Cup.
- 1.3. The Tournament will be played annually and take place on the date and place determined by the Organizing Committee (defined below). The Tournament will consist of a Group Stage and a Knockout Stage. The 2023 edition of the Tournament will take place from Friday, July 21 to Saturday, August 19, 2023, in the United States and Canada in stadiums previously approved and designated by the Organizing Committee. The current schedule of the 2023 Tournament is as follows:
 - 1.3.1. Group Stage: July 21-August 1, 2023
 - 1.3.2. Round of 32: August 2-5, 2023
 - 1.3.3. Round of 16: August 6-9, 2023
 - 1.3.4. Quarterfinals: August 11-12, 2023
 - 1.3.5. Semifinals: August 15, 2023
 - 1.3.6. Final/3rd Place: August 19, 2023
- 1.4. These Tournament Regulations, applicable for the 2023 edition of the Tournament, regulate the rights, duties, and responsibilities of all participants in the Tournament, including each Liga MX club and MLS club participating in the Tournament (each, a "**Participating Club**" or a "**Club**"), all players on any Participating Club and any officers or employees of any Participating Club (including, but not limited to, front office employees, coaches, technical staff, and medical personnel).

2. LEAGUES CUP COMMITTEES

- 2.1. **Leagues Cup Organizing Committee.** The Leagues Cup Organizing Committee (the "**Organizing Committee**") has the authority to organize, structure, lead and control the Tournament and to develop all regulations, guidelines and protocols related to the Tournament. The Organizing Committee will be exclusively composed of representatives from LIGA MX and MLS.



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- 2.2. **Leagues Cup Competition Committee.** The Leagues Cup Competition Committee (the “**Competition Committee**”) has the authority to structure all competition matters and related subcommittees for the Tournament.
- 2.3. **Leagues Cup Disciplinary Committee.** The Leagues Cup Disciplinary Committee (the “**Disciplinary Committee**”) has the authority to judge and sanction infractions and/or violations of the Tournament Regulations. The Disciplinary Committee will be made up of three (3) members: a member designated by MLS, a member designated by LIGA MX and an independent member designated by the Organizing Committee.
- 2.4. **Leagues Cup Appeals Committee.** The Leagues Cup Appeals Committee (the “**Appeals Committee**”) has the authority to review appeals asserted in response to infractions and/or violations of the Tournament Regulations. The Appeals Committee will be made up of three (3) members: member designated by MLS, a member designated by LIGA MX and an independent member designated by the Organizing Committee.
- 2.5. The Organizing Committee, the Competition Committee, the Disciplinary Committee, and the Appeals Committee are collectively referred to as the “**Leagues Cup Committees**”.
- 2.6. All decisions made by the Organizing Committee are final and binding and not subject to appeal. The Organizing Committee’s responsibilities include:
 - 2.6.1. Establish all Tournament regulations, policies, protocols, guidelines, and directives.
 - 2.6.2. Establish all logistics and travel structure, hotels, hospitals, training camps, medical services and activities related to the Tournament for all Participating Clubs.
 - 2.6.3. Designate a contact person for each of the Participating Clubs who will be the direct link with the Organizing Committee.
 - 2.6.4. Oversee Tournament preparations, taking into account various dynamics, including geographics and economic factors.
 - 2.6.5. Approve the schedule and kick-off times for each match played as part of the Tournament (a “**Competition Match**”).
 - 2.6.6. Appoint venue coordinators, Competition Match Commissioners, technical study groups, venue medical doctors, media officers, Security Leads and other personnel deemed necessary for each of the Competition Matches (collectively, “**Match Officials**”).
 - 2.6.6.1. Per Section 19.1, Concacaf will appoint, the Competition Match Referees and assessors who will participate in the Tournament.
 - 2.6.7. Prepare the Leagues Cup Guidelines & Policies (as defined below), as well as the catalogue of applicable sanctions for the Tournament, which will apply to players, coaching technical staff, referees, and members and employees of the Participating Club delegations.



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- 2.6.8. Establish the Competition Committee, Disciplinary Committee and Appeals Committee.
- 2.6.9. Determine and establish all guidelines related to the eligibility of players in the Tournament.
- 2.6.10. Determine whether to cancel, suspend or postpone Competition Matches, including as a result of force majeure events.
- 2.6.11. Select the official match ball, Match Referees apparel supplier, and stipulated technical material.
- 2.6.12. Establish protocols that Participating Clubs, Match Referees and Match Officials must follow before, during and after each Competition Match.

3. PARTICIPATING CLUBS

3.1. Each Participating Club agrees to the following:

- 3.1.1. Complying with all regulations, policies, protocols, guidelines, and directives established by the Organizing Committee.
- 3.1.2. Ensuring that the conduct of all members of their delegation (players, technical staff, and Participating Club representatives), and of any person who performs functions on behalf of the Participating Club during the Tournament, meets or exceeds all regulations and guidelines.
- 3.1.3. Providing health, travel, and accident insurance coverage for all members of the Participating Club's delegation during the Tournament.
- 3.1.4. Following all security and organization guidelines established by the Organizing Committee in an effort to ensure a safe environment for fans, players, Participating Club officials, Match Referees, Match Officials, the media, broadcasters, sponsors, and any other stadium attendees.
- 3.1.5. Paying all expenses designated as Participating Club expenses.
- 3.1.6. Applying for and receiving any/all required visas for the United States and/or Canada with sufficient time prior to traveling to the United States or Canada.
- 3.1.7. Providing the Organizing Committee with all required information and documentation, including properly completed tax forms, within the required times and deadlines.
- 3.1.8. Attending all official activities organized and authorized by the Organizing Committee in accordance with its policies, such as: match coordination meetings, press conferences, pre-and post-match interviews, training sessions, sponsor events, social responsibility activities, pre-event content collection, club photography and video footage, etc.
- 3.1.9. Promoting key moments and supporting Leagues Cup, including:
 - 3.1.9.1. Consistently promoting ticket sales each week and around all requested tentpole Leagues Cup moments.



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- 3.1.9.2. Supporting all tentpole marketing initiatives required by the Organizing Committee across Club-owned channels (e.g., One Year Countdown, Bracket Announcement, 100 Days Out, Merchandise drops, other key national/local moments, etc.).
 - 3.1.9.3. Providing consistent editorial and social media support leading up to and during the Competition.
 - 3.1.9.4. Supporting all Organizing Committee requests around Leagues Cup community and social responsibility programming (e.g., player integration, social media support, in-market execution, etc.).
 - 3.1.10. Providing coach and player access and availability for Leagues Cup promotional needs (e.g., media interviews, content production, press events, etc.).
 - 3.1.11. Adhering to all health and safety regulations (e.g., vaccination regulations and COVID-19 detection protocol), in accordance with the Organizing Committee, federal, state and/or local government protocols.
 - 3.1.12. Complying with the logistics, itineraries, flights, training sessions and other activities organized by the Organizing Committee from the Participating Club's arrival until its last day participating in the Tournament; and
 - 3.1.13. Applying and causing players to wear the official Leagues Cup patch on match kits on the right sleeve without alteration.
- 3.2. Participating Clubs, their players and employees participating in the Competition agree to respect and comply with:
- 3.2.1. The 2022-2023 International Football Association Board ("**IFAB**") Laws of the Game (the "**Laws of the Game**") as well as the principles of Fair Play.
 - 3.2.2. The regulations, policies, protocols, guidelines, and directives established by the Leagues Cup Committees, including the Tournament Regulations and Leagues Cup commercial guidelines (collectively, the "**Leagues Cup Guidelines & Policies**").
 - 3.2.3. The anti-discrimination measures that are applied, as necessary, in the stadium during the match, in accordance with the protocol in the Leagues Cup Guidelines & Policies.
 - 3.2.4. FIFA Doping Regulations current at the time of the Competition.
 - 3.2.5. All marketing, content, and media requirements of the Organizing Committee, including, but not limited to, media days on which individual and group photos and videos of each Participating Club will be taken upon arrival at the venue of each applicable round of competition.
 - 3.2.6. All anti-match-fixing regulations and Leagues Cup sports betting regulations.
 - 3.2.7. All anti-racism provisions; and
 - 3.2.8. All decisions and directives issued by the Leagues Cup Committees.
- 3.3. The Participating Club agrees to, and to cause its players, technical staff, and employees to, refrain from any illegal, immoral, or unethical behavior that damages, or may damage, the integrity and reputation of the Competition or the sport, and to fully cooperate at all times



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with the Leagues Cup Committees in their efforts to prevent, investigate and sanction such behaviors.

- 3.4. The Participating Club agrees to take the necessary measures to ensure that its players, coaches, and employees comply with the Leagues Cup Guidelines & Policies.

4. QUALIFICATION FOR LEAGUES CUP

- 4.1. In the 2023 edition of the Competition, 47 Clubs will participate: twenty-nine (29) MLS Clubs and eighteen (18) LIGA MX Clubs.
- 4.2. The Champion of the 2022 MLS Cup, as well as the Clausura or Apertura 2022 Tournament Champion with the most points accumulated during the year 2022 in LIGA MX (Clausura or Apertura Tournament Champion), qualify directly to the Knockout Stage (specifically, to the Round of 32 of the Competition).

5. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- 5.1. The Tournament format will take place in two stages, Group Stage and Knockout Stage (direct elimination).

GROUP FORMATION

- 5.2. The 2022 MLS Cup Champion, LAFC, and the Clausura or Apertura 2022 Tournament Champion with the most points accumulated during the year 2022 in LIGA MX (Clausura or Apertura Tournament Champion), Club Pachuca, have directly qualified for the 2023 Leagues Cup Knockout Stage's Round of 32.
- 5.3. The distribution of MLS Clubs for the Group Stage is based on the final standings of the 2022 Supporters' Shield. The top 15 MLS Clubs, excluding the 2022 MLS Cup Champion, were placed in groups based on their table standings and their geography. The LIGA MX Clubs with the best position in the table during the year 2022 (Clausura and Apertura Tournaments), excluding the Club with the most points accumulated in the year 2022 (Clausura and Apertura Tournaments), were distributed in groups in reverse order to the MLS Clubs.

FIRST GROUP MEMBERS AND REGIONS

- 5.4. There will be 4 geographic regions: East, South, Central and West.



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- 5.5. The MLS Clubs 1-8 and the LIGA MX Clubs 1-7, best placed during 2022, as explained in 5.3 above, will be leaders of their groups within each of the geographical areas, as presented below.

SECOND GROUP MEMBERS

- 5.6. Clubs 9 – 15 of MLS and 8 – 15 of LIGA MX will be located as second members of their groups based on their 2022 standings.

THIRD GROUP MEMBERS

- 5.7. The third member of each group is determined when the remaining 13 MLS Clubs, along with the 16th and 17th seeds of LIGA MX, are divided geographically and ordered according to their position in the final standings of the 2022 Supporters' Shield for MLS Clubs and both 2022 Clausura and Apertura Tournaments combined for LIGA MX Clubs.

REGIONS AND POSITIONS OF THE REMAINING CLUBS

- 5.8. LIGA MX Clubs FC Juárez (16) and Club Querétaro (17) were placed in the southern and eastern region, respectively.
- 5.9. MLS Clubs ranked 16 – 28 were divided by region and ranked based on their position in the final standings of the 2022 Supporters' Shield.

CRITERIA TO DETERMINE THE THIRD MEMBER OF THE 15 GROUPS

- 5.10. To continue with the criteria of sporting merits, the remaining 15 Clubs were placed in each of the groups based on their region and their position, ordering them in ascending order.

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WEST 1	WEST 2	WEST 3	
CENTRAL 1	CENTRAL 2	CENTRAL 3	CENTRAL 4
SOUTH 1	SOUTH 2	SOUTH 3	SOUTH 4
EAST 1	EAST 2	EAST 3	EAST 4

6. MATCH VENUES

6.1. To determine which Club will act as the **“Host Venue Team”** during the Group Stage, or whether a neutral venue will be designated, the following criteria will be considered:

- 6.1.1. Match between MLS Club vs MLS Club, the Host Venue Team will be the one who obtained the most points in the final standings of the 2022 Supporters’ Shield.
- 6.1.2. Match between MLS Club vs LIGA MX Club, the MLS Club will be the Host Venue Team.
- 6.1.3. Match between LIGA MX Club vs LIGA MX Club, a neutral venue will be appointed by the Organizing Committee.
- 6.1.4. It will be at the discretion of the Organizing Committee if a neutral venue is designated for any Competition Match, notwithstanding the criteria previously described.

6.2 Round of 32 matches will be played in venues using the following criteria:



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- 6.2.1. Match between MLS Club vs MLS Club, the Host Venue Team will be the Group Winner (with the exception of the letter 6.2.5 explained below).
- 6.2.2. Match between MLS Club vs LIGA MX Club, the MLS Club will be the Host Venue Team.
- 6.2.3. Match between LIGA MX Club vs LIGA MX Club, a neutral venue appointed by the Organizing Committee.
- 6.2.4. LAFC will act as the Host Venue Team in their Round of 32 match.
- 6.2.5. Match between South 2 Group Winner vs South 3 Group Winner, if MLS Club vs MLS Club, the criteria will be the following (which criteria are only considered if the previous criterium in the list does not determine the host Club):
 - 6.2.5.1. Total points during the Group Stage.
 - 6.2.5.2. Better goal differential between goals scored and goals conceded during the Group Stage.
 - 6.2.5.3. Greater number of goals scored during the Group Stage.
 - 6.2.5.4. Fewer number of goals conceded during the Group Stage.
 - 6.2.5.5. Clubs Fair Play table (as defined and explained below in the Group Stage tie-breaking criteria).
 - 6.2.5.6. The winner will be chosen in a draw organized by the Organizing Committee.
- 6.3. For the Round of 16, Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Final / Third-Place matches, the criteria will be as follows:
 - 6.3.1. Match between MLS Club vs MLS Club, the Host Venue Team will be the one which obtained the most points in the final standings of the 2022 Supporters' Shield.
 - 6.3.2. Match between MLS Club vs LIGA MX Club, the MLS Club will be the Host Venue Team.
 - 6.3.3. Match between LIGA MX Club vs LIGA MX Club, a neutral venue, appointed by the Organizing Committee.
- 6.4. Neutral venues for matches between two (2) LIGA MX Clubs include the following:
 - 6.4.1. **West:** BMO Stadium (Los Angeles, CA), Dignity Health Sports Park (Carson, CA), America First Field (Salt Lake City, UT), PayPal Park (San Jose, CA).
 - 6.4.2. **Central:** SeatGeek Stadium (Bridgeview, IL), Toyota Stadium (Frisco, TX), DICK'S Sporting Goods Park (Commerce City, CO), Shell Energy Stadium (Houston, TX).
 - 6.4.3. **South:** Q2 Stadium (Austin, TX), Toyota Stadium (Frisco, TX), Exploria Stadium (Orlando, FL), Shell Energy Stadium (Houston, TX).
 - 6.4.4. **East:** Red Bull Arena (Harrison, NJ), Subaru Park (Chester, PA), Audi Field (Washington, D.C.).



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- 6.5. As not all venues are fully available during the Tournament, the Organizing Committee will have the authority to designate alternate venues if it deems it necessary, respecting the geographical areas in which the Participating Clubs have been divided and taking into consideration the venues mentioned in the previous paragraph.

To facilitate an equitable playing environment for LIGA MX Clubs during the Group Stage and Knockout Stage matches in Leagues Cup venues, a set number of tickets as determined by the Organizing Committee will be set aside for the LIGA MX Club for its fans to purchase.

If the LIGA MX Club fans have not purchased the tickets 48 hours prior to the start of the Competition Match, the Organizing Committee may determine whether to put these tickets up for sale for general fans.

- 6.6. Match venues, times and dates for Group and Knockout Stage Competition Matches will be determined by the Organizing Committee and shared with the Participating Clubs, as well as the Match Referees in advance.

7. GROUP STAGE

- 7.1. The Group Stage will be played from July 21 to July 31, 2023.
- 7.2. The Group Stage will be made up of fifteen (15) groups of three (3) teams in each group.
- 7.3. All Group Stage matches will be held in MLS designated and approved stadiums.
- 7.4. Each Club will play two (2) matches during the Group Stage against members of the same group, for a total of forty-five (45) matches in the Group Stage.
- 7.5. All Clubs must have a minimum of two (2) full rest days between each match.
- 7.6. During the Group Stage, all matches must have a winner; therefore, if the score is tied at the end of the ninety (90) minutes of regular time, the match winner will be determined by penalty kicks, without extra time, in accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 9 ("**Penalty Kick Procedure**") of these Tournament Regulations.
- 7.7. In the Group Stage, and to qualify for the Knockout Stage:
- 7.7.1. Three (3) points will be awarded for each win.
 - 7.7.2. One (1) point will be awarded if the match is drawn at the end of regular time; the winner of Penalty Kicks will receive one additional point for a total of (2) points, while the loser will receive one (1) point for the draw.
 - 7.7.3. Zero (0) points will be awarded if the match is lost in regular time.



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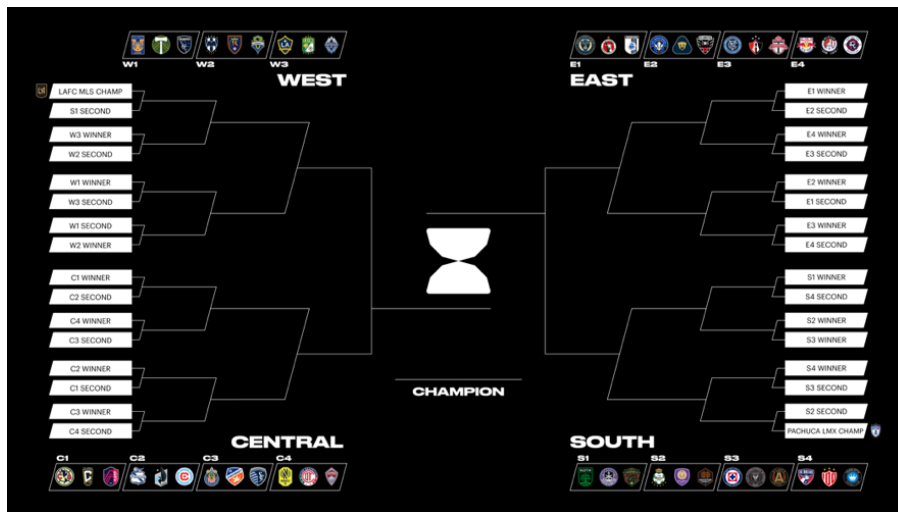
- 7.8. To determine the group standings at the end of the Group Stage, each group table will be organized with the order of the Clubs corresponding to the sum of points accumulated by each of Club, presented in descending order.
- 7.9. If at the end of the Group Stage, two or more Clubs are tied in points, their position in the table would be determined according to the following tie-breaking criteria (these are only considered if the previous criterium in the list does not determine which Club advances):
- 7.9.1. Direct head-to-head match result between the tied Clubs (for clarity, a win in penalty kicks is a win for purposes of this tiebreaker).
 - 7.9.2. Better goal differential between goals scored and goals conceded during the Group Stage.
 - 7.9.3. Greater number of goals scored during the Group Stage.
 - 7.9.4. Fewer number of goals conceded during the Group Stage.
 - 7.9.5. Clubs Fair Play table (as defined and explained below).
 - 7.9.6. The winner will be chosen in a draw organized by the Organizing Committee.
- 7.10. The Clubs Fair Play Table is a point-based system on which the number of yellow and red cards is counted for players and members of technical staff, in accordance with the following:
- 7.10.1. First yellow card – 1 point
 - 7.10.2. Second yellow card (indirect red card) – 3 points (The first yellow card will not be considered)
 - 7.10.3. Direct red card – 3 points
 - 7.10.4. Yellow card followed by a direct red card – 4 points.
 - 7.10.5. The Clubs Fair Play Table will be available on the official website of the Competition.

8. KNOCKOUT STAGE

- 8.1. The Knockout Stage consists of thirty-two (32) direct elimination matches to be played in five (5) rounds: (I) Round of 32; (II) Round of 16; (III) Quarterfinals; (IV) Semifinals; and (V) Final/Third-Place match.
- 8.2. The first and second place of each group in the Group Stage will qualify for the Knockout Stage, for a total of thirty (30) Clubs qualified for the Round of 32.
- 8.3. For the 2023 edition of the Competition, LAFC (2022 MLS Cup Champion) and Pachuca (LIGA MX Champion with most combined points in 2022) advanced directly to the Round of 32 to complete the 32 Clubs participating in said round.

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- 8.4. The Knockout Stage matches will be based on the criteria of direct elimination in a single match; therefore, if the score is tied at the end of the ninety (90) minutes of regular time, the match winner will be determined by the Penalty Kick Procedure.
- 8.5. During the Round of 32, Round of 16 and Quarterfinals, the Clubs will maintain the geographical areas in which they were placed during the Group Stage.
- 8.6. During the Semifinals, the winner of the East Region will face the winner of the South Region, and the winner of the West Region will face the winner of the Central Region.
- 8.7. The winners of both Semifinals will face each other in the Final of the Competition, while the Clubs that did not advance to the Final will meet in the Third-Place match.
- 8.8. The Knockout Stage will be played pursuant to the following bracket:



- 8.9. The Knockout Stage matches will be played on the following dates:
 - 8.9.1. The Round of 32 will be played on Wednesday, August 2, Thursday, August 3, and Friday, August 4, 2023.
 - 8.9.2. The Round of 16 will be played on Sunday, August 6, Monday, August 7, and Tuesday, August 8, 2023.
 - 8.9.3. The Quarterfinals will be played on Friday, August 11 and Saturday, August 12, 2023.
 - 8.9.4. The Semifinals will be played on Tuesday, August 15, 2023.
 - 8.9.5. The Third-Place match and the Final will be played on Saturday, August 19, 2023.

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9. PENALTY KICK PROCEDURE

- 9.1. Kicks from the penalty mark are taken after the match has ended and unless otherwise stated, the relevant Laws of the Game apply. A player who has been sent off during the match is not permitted to take part; warnings and cautions issued during the match are not carried forward into kicks from the penalty mark.
- 9.2. Before kicks from the penalty mark start:
- 9.2.1. Unless there are other considerations (e.g., ground conditions, safety etc.), the Match Referee tosses a coin to decide the goal at which the kicks will be taken, which may only be changed for safety reasons or if the goal or playing surface becomes unusable.
 - 9.2.2. The Match Referee tosses a coin again, and the team that wins the toss decides whether to take the first or second kick.
 - 9.2.3. With the exception of a substitute for a goalkeeper who is unable to continue, only players who are on the field of play or are temporarily off the field of play (e.g., injury, adjusting equipment etc.) at the end of the match are eligible to take kicks.
 - 9.2.4. Each team is responsible for selecting from the eligible players the order in which they will take the kicks. The Match Referee is not informed of the order.
 - 9.2.5. If at the end of the match and before or during the kicks one team has a greater number of players than its opponents, it must reduce its numbers to the same number as its opponents and the Match Referee must be informed of the name and number of each player excluded. Any excluded player is not eligible to take part in the kicks (except as outlined below).
 - 9.2.6. A goalkeeper who is unable to continue before or during the kicks may be replaced by a player excluded to equalize the number of players or, if their team has not used its maximum permitted number of substitutes, a named substitute, but the replaced goalkeeper takes no further part and may not take a kick.
 - 9.2.7. If the goalkeeper has already taken a kick, the replacement may not take a kick until the next round of kicks.
- 9.3. During kicks from the penalty mark:
- 9.3.1. Only eligible players and Match Referees are permitted to remain on the field of play.
 - 9.3.2. All eligible players, except the player taking the kick and the two goalkeepers, must remain within the center circle.
 - 9.3.3. The goalkeeper of the kicker must remain on the field of play, outside the penalty area, on the goal line where it meets the penalty area boundary line.

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- 9.3.4. An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper.
- 9.3.5. The kick is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play or the Match Referee stops play for any offense; the kicker may not play the ball a second time.
- 9.3.6. The Match Referee keeps a record of the kicks.
- 9.3.7. If the goalkeeper commits an offense and, as a result, the kick is retaken, the goalkeeper is warned for the first offense and cautioned for any subsequent offense(s).
- 9.3.8. If the kicker is penalized for an offense committed after the Match Referee has signaled for the kick to be taken, that kick is recorded as missed and the kicker is cautioned.
- 9.3.9. If both the goalkeeper and the kicker commit an offense at the same time, the kick is recorded as missed and the kicker is cautioned.

9.4. Subject to the conditions explained below, both teams take five kicks:

- 9.4.1. The kicks are taken alternately by the teams.
- 9.4.2. Each kick is taken by a different player, and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick.
- 9.4.3. If, before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken.
- 9.4.4. If, after both teams have taken five kicks, the scores are level, kicks continue until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks.
- 9.4.5. The above principle continues for any subsequent sequence of kicks, but a team may change the order of kickers.
- 9.4.6. Kicks from the penalty mark must not be delayed for a player who leaves the field of play. The player's kick will be forfeited (not scored) if the player does not return in time to take a kick.

9.5. Substitutions and players sent-off during penalty kicks:

- 9.5.1. A player, substitute, substituted player or team official may be cautioned or sent off.
- 9.5.2. A goalkeeper who is sent off must be replaced by an eligible player.
- 9.5.3. A player other than the goalkeeper who is unable to continue may not be replaced.
- 9.5.4. The Match Referee must not abandon the match if a team is reduced to fewer than seven players.



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10. MATCH SUSPENSIONS AND CANCELLATIONS

- 10.1. The Participating Clubs must play their matches in the Competition.
- 10.2. In the event that any Participating Club cancels its participation unjustifiably, the Organizing Committee and the corresponding League will analyze the case and determine the sanction.
- 10.3. If a Participating Club cancels a match, or a match cannot be played or is suspended as a result of force majeure or other reasons as determined by the Organizing Committee, the Organizing Committee will decide on the matter at its discretion and take any necessary action it deems necessary, but in all circumstances with the main objective to complete the matches.
- 10.4. For match suspensions, the Leagues Cup Operation Center will be the main point of contact and determine the steps to follow. The final decision will be taken by the Organizing Committee based on the case scenarios described below.

SUSPENSION OF A MATCH NOT STARTED

- 10.5. If a match cannot be started due to force majeure or other reasons as determined by the Organizing Committee the Match Referee and Match Commissioner must follow the following procedure:
 - 10.5.1. The match will initially be delayed forty-five (45) minutes unless the Match Referee and Match Commissioner decide that the match can start sooner.
 - 10.5.2. If after the first forty-five (45) minutes have elapsed, another time extension is necessary based on an analysis of all the information available, the Match Referee and Match Commissioner may, at their discretion, determine an additional delay of the match as necessary.
 - 10.5.3. If, after the total delay time (45 minutes and second extension of time), the conditions to start the match are not met, the Match Referee and Match Commissioner must declare that the match has been suspended.
 - 10.5.4. The Organizing Committee will determine the date and time that the match will take place within the next twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours.
 - 10.5.5. In the unlikely event that the match cannot be rescheduled, the Organizing Committee shall make the final decision about whether to cancel (and, if cancelled, a determination of the final result).
- 10.6. The Participating Clubs must remain in the stadium until the resumption and/or suspension of the delayed match unless it is rescheduled for another day.

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SUSPENSION OF A MATCH ALREADY STARTED

- 10.7 If a match that has already started is halted due to force majeure or other reasons as determined by the Organizing Committee the Match Referee and Match Commissioner must follow the following procedure:
- 10.7.1 The Match Referee and Match Commissioner must assess the force majeure (or other) causes and determine the time it will take to resume the match or whether the match must be suspended:
 - 10.7.1.1 If the anticipated length of delay is fewer than 15 minutes, the Clubs must remain on the field of play if the conditions allow for it. Once the time for the restart of the match has been determined, the Match Referee must give the Clubs at least 5 minutes to warm up before restarting play.
 - 10.7.1.2 If the anticipated length of delay is greater than 15 minutes and fewer than 30 minutes, the Clubs may enter their dressing rooms and then return to the field of play. Once the restart time is determined, the Match Referee must give the Clubs at least 10 minutes to warm up before restarting play.
 - 10.7.1.3 If the anticipated length of delay is greater than 30 minutes, the Clubs may enter their dressing rooms and then return to the field of play once the restart time is determined. Once the restart time is determined, the Match Referee must give the Clubs at least 15 minutes to warm up before restarting play.
- 10.8 If a match that has already started is suspended due to force majeure or other reasons as determined by the Organizing Committee, the match must be resumed within the next twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours, applying the following principles:
- 10.8.1 The match will be resumed in the same minute the game was interrupted and with the same score it was at the moment of the suspension.
 - 10.8.2 The match will be restarted with the same players that were on the field of play, as well as the same substitutes that were available at the time the match was suspended.
 - 10.8.3 Additional substitute players may not be added to the list of players established on the Club's roster list.
 - 10.8.4 The Participating Clubs can only make the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled to at the time of the suspension. If a Club has already made all substitutions and a player is injured or ill without being able to return to the match the next day, he may be replaced if, and only if, the Organizing Committee certifies the player's injury or illness, automatically enabling an extra substitution or substitution window (in case they have all been used) to the opposing Club. This assumption would

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also apply in case of a concussion that was not certified at the time of the match but has been confirmed after the match was suspended.

- 10.8.5 Players that have been sent off during the suspended match cannot be replaced.
- 10.8.6 Any sanctions imposed before the match was suspended will remain in effect for the remainder of the match.
- 10.8.7 The time, date and venue will be set by the Organizing Committee.

- 10.9 Furthermore, the Organizing Committee will determine, at its sole discretion, any other decision, or modifications of the procedures.
- 10.10 Any other alleged case not established in these Tournament Regulations will be addressed by the Organizing Committee.

SUSPENSION OF A MATCH ALREADY STARTED DUE TO RACIST / DISCRIMINATORY BEHAVIOR CHANTS

- 10.11 If racist / discriminatory chants occur at a match that has already started, the Match Referee, Match Commissioner and Security Lead must follow the Racist / Discriminatory Protocol set forth in the Chant Protocol Annex, including the procedure set forth by FIFA as a three-step procedure for discriminatory incidents:
- 10.12 **Step 1: Stop the Match** – If the proactive and reactive announcements are not effective in stopping the widespread racist / discriminatory behavior, the match should be stopped by the Match Referee.
- 10.13 **Step 2: Suspend the Match** – If the discriminatory behavior continues and is widespread once the match has restarted, the match shall be suspended for a reasonable time. The Match Referee shall inform the teams to return to the dressing rooms and a public announcement shall be made informing of the suspension.
- 10.14 **Step 3: Abandon the Match** – If suspending the match proves ineffective in controlling the undesired behavior because (1) the discriminatory behavior does not cease once the match has restarted, or (2) the match was not able to be restarted, the match may be abandoned. It will be at the discretion of the Referees, Match Commissioner, Security Lead, and the Organizing Committee to determine whether to continue the match, taking into account security reasons. The abandoning of the match shall only be taken as a very last resort and after all other possible measures have been implemented. If a match is abandoned, the Organizing Committee shall make the final decision about whether to reschedule or cancel (and, if cancelled, a determination of the final result).



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11. PLAYER AND TECHNICAL STAFF REGISTRATION AND REGISTRATION PERIODS

REGISTRATION PERIODS

- 11.1. The registration period for players and technical staff (30 player roster – 10 members of technical staff) must be submitted to the Organizing Committee beginning on Monday, July 3, 2023 and ending on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. ET.
- 11.2. The player substitution period due to injury, illness or new player acquisition will be from Wednesday, July 12, 2023 to Thursday, August 11, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. ET, before the Quarterfinals are to be played.
- 11.3. The rosters will be made public at the discretion of the Organizing Committee.

PLAYER REGISTRATION

- 11.4. Player and technical staff member registration must be carried out through the corresponding "**Competition System**."
- 11.5. Competition System is the official electronic tool provided by the Organizing Committee, that all the participating Clubs must submit the Competition Roster for the Tournament. This includes the Club's players and technical staff members on MD-1, the match day lineups and the official information from the Organizing Committee.
- 11.6. The players and technical staff members who will participate in the Tournament must be registered and confirmed by LIGA MX and MLS, respectively, and comply with all registration requirements of their respective league.

The Participating Clubs must submit their official rosters of up to thirty (30) eligible players ("**Competition Roster**") to the Organizing Committee through the Competition System no later than ten (10) days before the start of the Competition (i.e., 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2023). If for any reason the Participating Club did not register a player during the registration period, the player will not be eligible to participate in the Tournament.

- 11.7. Each Club must send:
 - 11.7.1. Full legal name of each roster member;
 - 11.7.2. Common name of each player;
 - 11.7.3. Position (only players);
 - 11.7.4. Job Title (technical staff only);
 - 11.7.5. Shirt Number (only players);
 - 11.7.6. Nationality;



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- 11.7.7. Date of Birth;
 - 11.7.8. Place of Birth;
 - 11.7.9. Age;
 - 11.7.10. Photograph;
 - 11.7.11. Passport Number; and
 - 11.7.12. Copy of current passport.
- 11.8. All Clubs must register a minimum of twenty-six (26) and a maximum of thirty (30) players, with the registration of a minimum of three (3) goalkeepers being mandatory.
- 11.9. All Clubs must register a maximum of ten (10) technical staff members, who will be validated by MLS and LIGA MX, respectively. It is mandatory to cover the following charges:
- 11.9.1. Head Coach;
 - 11.9.2. Assistant Coach;
 - 11.9.3. Fitness Coach; and
 - 11.9.4. Two (2) members of the Medical Staff (The Club can choose from: Doctor, Medical Assistant and/or Physiotherapist, Physician or Athletic Trainer/Therapist).
- 11.10. Participating Clubs must comply with the regulations of their respective Leagues in relation to player eligibility. Only the registered players of each Participating Club will be eligible to participate in the Competition.
- 11.11. Each Participating Club will be responsible for registering eligible players for the Competition. Failure to do so will entail consequences stipulated in the applicable policies and the sanction will be determined by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 11.12. The Rosters for the Competition will be published by the Organizing Committee.

PLAYERS SUBSTITUTION DUE TO ILLNESS, INJURY OR NEW ACQUISITION

- 11.13. If a player selected on the Competition Roster suffers an injury or illness, the Participating Club may replace that player on the Competition Roster until Thursday, August 11, 2023, 11:59 p.m.
- 11.14. If a player who has already been registered with a Participating Club is transferred to another Participating Club between Wednesday, July 12, 2023 and Thursday, August 11, 2023, the player may replace another player on the Competition Roster of the Participating Club to which the player has been transferred, so long as the replacement is completed by Thursday, August 11, 2023, 11:59 p.m.



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- 11.15. If A player may only be added to the Competition Roster of a Participating Club if the player has not previously participated in the same edition of the Competition with another Participating Club. For these purposes, participation includes playing in the Competition, being on the bench during any Match or being included on the Match Roster (as defined in Section 12 of these Tournament Regulations) for any Match.
- 11.16. The maximum number of replacements on a Participating Club's Competition Roster during the Competition for
- 11.17. any reason (either under Section 11.13 or 11.14) is three (3).

12. MATCHDAY LINEUPS

- 12.1. The matchday lineups will be the definitive list with a maximum of twenty-three (23) and a minimum of eighteen (18) player names, including three (3) goalkeepers being mandatory, from the Competition Roster and a maximum of 9 (nine) technical staff members that Club officials must load into the Competition System so that they can be noted by the Match Referees in their reports (starting players, substitutes and technical staff).
- 12.2. From the list of thirty (30) registered players for Leagues Cup, Clubs must send the Match Roster, a list of twenty-six (26) players that will be considered for the match, MD-1 before 2:00 p.m. ET. Only players on the Match Roster may be considered for the 23-man matchday Lineup.
- 12.3. The matchday lineups must meet the requirement of being comprised only of players and technical staff members who are properly registered and approved by each League to participate in the Competition. The Leagues' regular season player rules regarding lineups will not apply for Leagues Cup.
- 12.4. The Clubs must enter the matchday lineup in the Competition System at least seventy-five (75) minutes before the start of the Competition Match.
- 12.5. The numbers on the players' jersey must correspond to the numbers indicated in the matchday lineup. The matchday lineup must be signed by the Head Coach.
- 12.6. Each Participating Club is responsible for arriving at the venue no later than ninety (90) minutes before the start of the Competition Match.
- 12.7. Each Participating Club is responsible for ensuring that the matchday lineup is submitted on time and that only the eleven (11) selected starting players start the Competition Match.

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- 12.8. After the matchday lineups have been submitted by the Club and validated by the Match Referee and Match Commissioner, the following indications will apply in case the Competition Match has not yet begun:
- 12.8.1. If any of the eleven (11) starting players featured in the starting lineup are unable to start the match due to a sudden injury or illness, they may be replaced by any of the eligible substitutes as long as this is officially reported for the Match Referee and Match Commissioner before the kickoff. This situation will neither count against the Club's five (5) substitutions allowed nor the three (3) substitution windows, and the substituted player may not be on the substitute bench. To clarify, the injured or ill player may not be at field level or on the bench for the entirety of the match.
 - 12.8.2. In addition, the available place on the substitute bench can be occupied by one (1) player from the Match Roster who had not been considered as part of the matchday lineup. Participating Clubs may request this type of substitution up to fifteen (15) minutes before the start of the Competition Match. The number of substitute players of a Participating Club may not exceed twelve (12) players at any time.
 - 12.8.2.1. If this substitution is realized with less than fifteen (15) minutes before the start of the Competition Match, no replacement player can be included in the substitute bench and the Club will have a maximum of eleven (11) substitute players available.
 - 12.8.3. Although no longer eligible to play as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the starting lineup, may still be eligible for doping control selection. Said player must observe the game from the suite or box designated to the Club. For health reasons the Club medical staff needs to determine if the ill player is not considered contagious and can be in the suite.
- 12.9. Only the players identified as starting players in the matchday lineup submitted to the Match Referee and the Match Commissioner, or those who have been confirmed as replacement players due to a warm-up injury or illness, can start the Competition Match. In the event of a discrepancy between the players on the field and the players on the starting lineup, the issue will be presented to the Match Commissioner for a decision.

13. TECHNICAL AREA

- 13.1. A maximum of twenty-one (21) people, including technical staff and/or Club officials and substitute players, may sit in the technical area of each Participating Club. The names of the technical staff must be indicated on the "Employees in the Technical Area" form, which must be handed to the Match Commissioner and the Match Referees. Any individuals suspended or not eligible for the match (e.g., player, technical staff member or Club official) may not sit in the technical area for any reason.

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- 13.2. Up to nine (9) technical staff members of each Participating Club will be allowed in the lineup for each Competition Match. Of the nine (9) technical staff members, the following positions are mandatory: Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Performance Coach and two (2) members of the Medical Staff, which can be: Doctor, Medical Assistant and/or Physiotherapist, Physician or Athletic Trainer/Therapist. If the Head Coach is serving a suspension, the Club must designate an Assistant Coach registered in the Competition as the person in charge on the bench.
- 13.3. If one of the technical staff members is sent off prior to the start of the Competition Match, the Club will not be allowed to add another member to the lineup.
- 13.4. The use of technological devices such as communication devices, tablets and systems that are regulated under the Laws of the Game will be allowed for the limited purposes of explaining plays graphically, making annotations and keeping a record of the match. The use of these devices to contest officiating decisions or to object to a decision made by the Match Referee strictly forbidden. An individual who breaches these provisions will be sanctioned by the Match Referee and may also be sanctioned by the Disciplinary Committee, depending on the seriousness of the case.

14. MISALIGNMENT

- 14.1. A misalignment will be considered:
 - 14.1.1. When a member of the technical staff who is not registered in the lineup sits on the bench.
 - 14.1.2. When a player who is not registered in the lineup enters the game during the match, either as a starter or a substitute.
 - 14.1.3. When a player or technical staff member is registered in the lineup at the same time that they are, for any reason whatsoever, suspended by the Disciplinary Committee, MLS, LIGA MX, other Association, Concacaf or by FIFA and/or CAS.
 - 14.1.4. When there is an attempt to impersonate players or technical staff members.
 - 14.1.5. When there is no respect for the substitution rules set forth in these Tournament Regulations.
- 14.2. With respect to the infraction referred to in number 14.1.2, it will not be considered misalignment when a player who is not registered in the lineup appears on the bench; however, in such instances, the case will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee to determine corresponding sanction.
- 14.3. Clubs that incur a misalignment will forfeit the match, awarding the opposing Club with the three (3) points for the match.

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- 14.4. In the event that the score was tied 0-0, the final score will be 1-0 in favor of the Club that did not commit any infractions in their lineup.
- 14.5. In the event that the score was tied 1-1 and/or with higher score, the goals scored by the Club that acted legally will be awarded. In other words, the final score for the infracting team will be zero (0), while the final score for the team that respected the rules will be the number of goals scored during the match.
- 14.6. In the event that the Club that acted legally loses the match by any score, the final score will be 1-0 in their favor. In the event of losing the match after scoring a goal or goals, the number of goals scored in the match will be awarded and only the goals of the infracting team will not be awarded.
- 14.7. Regarding the Top Scorer Table, the goals scored by the players of the sanctioned Club will not be awarded.
- 14.8. Likewise, if in the same match, both Clubs commit a misalignment, both Clubs shall lose the points available during the match (i.e., neither Club will score points).
- 14.9. Finally, in the case of a misalignment, the Disciplinary Committee will penalize the offending Club with a twenty-five thousand US dollar (\$25,000 USD) fine.
- 14.10. The Leagues Cup Disciplinary Committee will sanction misalignments at the request of the opposing Club or regardless, in accordance with the provisions in this article.
- 14.11. Investigation requests must be submitted to the Disciplinary Committee no later than 24 hours after the conclusion of the match in question, and any request submitted after this deadline will not be accepted.

15. LAWS OF THE GAME

- 15.1. All Competition Matches will be played in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game published by FIFA.
- 15.2. In the event of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the text in English will prevail.
- 15.3. Each Competition Match will last ninety (90) minutes, divided in two (2) halves of forty-five (45) minutes each with a half-time period of fifteen (15) minutes between each half.

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- 15.4. If a Competition Match in either the Group or the Knockout Stage should end in a tie at the end of the ninety (90) minutes, the winner shall be decided by Penalty Kicks. To clarify, no extra time will be played if the match ends in a tie at the end of the ninety (90) minutes.

Each Club will be allowed a maximum of five normal (5) substitutions in three (3) substitution windows. The substitutions made at half-time will be considered as one (1) substitution window mentioned above. In addition, if each Club makes the substitution at the same window, a “normal” substitution will be deducted from each Club.

- 15.5. Protocol B, Concussion Substitutions of the IFAB Laws of the Game.

- 15.5.1. In addition to the five (5) “normal” substitutions in three (3) windows, each Club will have up to two (2) additional “concussion substitutions” when there is a suspected/possible concussion.
- 15.5.2. These two (2) “concussion substitutions” are allowed regardless of how many “normal” substitutions or windows have been used.
- 15.5.3. A “concussion substitution” may be done:
- 15.5.3.1. Immediately after the concussion occurs or is suspected.
 - 15.5.3.2. After an evaluation in the field, and/or after an evaluation off the field;
or
 - 15.5.3.3. At any other time, a concussion occurs or is suspected (including when a player has been previously evaluated and has returned to the game).
- 15.5.4. When a “concussion substitution” is used, the opposing Club will have the chance to make an “additional” substitution as well as an additional window for any reason. Said substitution and window may or may not be used at the same time as the “concussion substitution” used by the opposing Club.
- 15.5.5. The “additional” substitution may only be used after the Club has already used all their available “normal” substitutions or substitution windows.
- 15.5.6. At the time of the “additional” substitution, only the “additional” substitute may enter the game. If the Club has already used their three (3) substitution windows, but not their five (5) “normal” substitutions, the Club will not be able to use any “normal” substitutes in the same window as the “additional” substitution.
- 15.5.7. If a Club makes a non-concussion substitution in the same break in which a “concussion substitution” is being made, that Club will have used one “normal” substitution.

16. DISCIPLINARY ASPECTS

The purpose of this chapter is to define the bases on which the Disciplinary Committee will judge and sanction infractions and/or violations of the Tournament Regulations, Laws of the Game as well as its protocols and guidelines.

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DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- 16.1. The formation and leadership of the Disciplinary Committee will be the responsibility of the Organizing Committee.
- 16.2. The Leagues Cup Disciplinary Committee will be made up of three (3) members: a member designated by MLS, a member designated by LIGA MX and an independent member designated by the Organizing Committee
- 16.3. The Disciplinary Committee will apply and interpret the Tournament Regulations and the FIFA Disciplinary Code (in a supplementary manner, as appropriate and if necessary).
- 16.4. In case of violation of these Tournament Regulations or any other applicable regulation, or in case of unsportsmanlike conduct not covered in these Tournament Regulations or the FIFA Disciplinary Code, by the participating Clubs, their players, and/or staff, or any type of incident, the Disciplinary Committee is authorized to apply the following sanctions and/or decisions:
 - 16.4.1. Cautions, warnings, economic sanctions, deduction of points in the Group Stage, elimination in the Knockout Stage (Direct Elimination), suspension and/or disqualification of Clubs, their players, staff and/or officials.
 - 16.4.2. Act against any person(s), Participating Club(s), who commit any breach of these Tournament Regulations or any other applicable regulation (including the Laws of the Game).
- 16.5. The Organizing Committee may report any incident that it considers serious and that should be analyzed and, if it is necessary, sanctioned by to the Disciplinary Committee.
- 16.6. The decisions of the Disciplinary Committee may consider, among other inputs, the report of the Match Referee, the Match Commissioner, Security Lead, statements of the parties involved in any incident, incident witnesses, expert opinion, recordings, videos, digital or graphic elements.
- 16.7. The decisions on disciplinary matters are mandatory and must be complied with during the duration of the Competition.
- 16.8. The summons, notifications and decisions made by the Disciplinary Committee to players, members of the technical staff, directors, or employees of any Club, will be made directly to the Club to which they belong, so from the date of notification, it will be understood that the person has been duly notified.
- 16.9. The members of the Disciplinary Committee must sign any notification and/or correspondence, and/or resolution that they issue.



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- 16.10. Any request of the Disciplinary Committee to initiate an investigation must be made through the Disciplinary Committee (disciplinary@leaguescup.com), by writing with all the evidence. The request must be sent within a maximum period of 24 hours after the end of the corresponding match.
- 16.11. The interested party or claimant, in writing to request the initiation of an investigation, must include the request(s), a statement of the facts, evidence, if any, a list of the proposed witnesses (with a summary of the foreseeable testimony), final arguments and the acceptance of payment to initiate an investigation procedure.
- 16.12. Requests to initiate an investigation procedure are subject to the payment of one thousand US dollars (USD 1,000), which will be deducted from the amount of participation fee in the Competition from the Club submitting the request.
- 16.13. Failure to comply with any of the aforementioned requirements will result in the investigation request not being accepted.
- 16.14. It is the responsibility of the Disciplinary Committee, among other issues, to:
- 16.14.1. At the request of a party, a review to rectify a case of a clear and obvious error relating to an on-field disciplinary decision of the Match Referees for one of the following:
 - 16.14.1.1. a red card; or
 - 16.14.1.2. the second yellow card when a Player receives two (2) yellow cards in a match resulting in a suspension.
 - 16.14.2. Sanction actions incurred by players, members of the technical staff, directors, employees of a Club and Clubs when they are in any of the cases in the catalog of sanctions of this Regulation.
 - 16.14.3. Penalize serious cases involving those persons subject to this Regulation where both the Match Referee nor the Match Commissioner had not noticed the issue, and that the Committee has the certainty that it happened before, during, and/or after the match, and that does not correspond to the disciplinary decisions that the Match Referee adopts during the ninety (90) minutes of the match.
 - 16.14.4. Discretionally qualify the seriousness of the offenses committed to determine the applicable sanction.
 - 16.14.5. In reference to subparagraphs 16.14.3-16.14.5, the Disciplinary Committee may sanction ex officio or at the request of a party.
- 16.15. The decisions of the Disciplinary Committee may only be appealed to the Leagues Cup Appeals Committee.
- 16.16. The Disciplinary Committee will not review issues related to the decisions of the Match Referees on facts related to the game without having been penalized or reported by the



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Match Referees, since said decisions are final. The above, except for the clear an obvious case of error decision by the Match Referee explained in the subsection 16.14, that the Disciplinary Committee could analyze.

SESSIONS

- 16.17. The Disciplinary Committee will meet once the match day is over during the Group Stage or in the case of the Knockout Stage at the end of each elimination round.
- 16.18. The sessions of the Disciplinary Committee may be held in person, by telephone, videoconference and/or any other electronic means, with at least 2 members participating in the meeting.
- 16.19. The decision reports of the Disciplinary Committee will be sent to the Clubs and will be published on the official website of the Competition (LeaguesCup.com).
- 16.20. Decisions will be made by a simple majority of the Disciplinary Committee members.

APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 16.21. The Appeals Committee is the body before which appellants may submit arguments and evidence they have in their defense, regarding sanctions issued by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 16.22. The Appeals Committee, exercising its functions with total autonomy and independence and with knowledge of the matter, must confirm, revoke, modify or annul the resolution appealed.
- 16.23. The Leagues Cup Appeals Committee will be made up of three (3) members: a member designated by MLS, a member designated by LIGA MX and an independent member designated by the Organizing Committee.
- 16.24. The formation and leadership of the Appeals Committee will be the responsibility of the Organizing Committee.
- 16.25. The Appeals Committee will hear the appeals that meet the requirements detailed in the Tournament Regulations, against the decisions made by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 16.26. The Appeals Committee will not hear appeals filed for the following sanctions:
 - 16.26.1. First yellow card.



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- 16.26.2. One (1) suspended match, except in the case of a clear and obvious case of error by the Match Referee which has been judged by the Disciplinary Committee in the first instance.
- 16.27. Appeals on incidents that have not been previously judged by the Disciplinary Committee will not be reviewed.
- 16.28. The Appeals Committee will apply and interpret the Tournament Regulations and the FIFA Disciplinary Code (in a supplementary manner, as appropriate and if necessary).
- 16.29. The decisions of the Appeals Committee must be based on the file of the Disciplinary Committee that could include, among other things, the report of the Match Referee, the Match Commissioner, Security Lead, statements of the parties, incident witness, expert opinions, recordings, videos, digital elements, or graphics.
- 16.30. Appellant must file an appeal of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee with the Appeals Committee in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving notice of the Disciplinary Committee's decision. Appellant's written appeal must include all evidence and arguments. Written appeals must be filed with to the Appeals Committee (appeals@leaguescup.com) with copy to Disciplinary Committee (disciplinary@leaguescup.com).
- 16.31. Appeals are subject to the payment of one thousand US Dollars (USD 1,000), which will be deducted from the amount of participation in the Competition. If the Appeal is successful, the amount will be returned to the Club.
- 16.32. In the request, Appellant must include a statement of the facts, evidence, a list of the proposed witnesses (with a summary of the foreseeable testimony), final arguments and the acceptance of the payment of the appeal fee.
- 16.33. Once the appeal is submitted, the appellant will not be authorized to submit any further documentation or evidence once the deadline for submitting the appeal brief has expired.
- 16.34. Failure to comply with any above requirements will result in the investigation request being rejected.
- 16.35. The appealed decision cannot be modified to the detriment or prejudice of Appellant.
- 16.36. The resolutions issued by the Appeals Committee will be final and will take effect from the moment they are notified.
- 16.37. The resolutions issued by the Appeals Committee will only be appealable before the Court for Arbitration for Sport (CAS), based in Lausanne, Switzerland, within a period of 21 calendar days after notification of the appealed decision. The CAS does not deal with resources

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related to violations of the Laws of the Game and suspensions of up to four (4) games or less than three (3) months.

SESSIONS

- 16.38. The Appeals Committee will meet twenty-four (24) hours after receiving the appeal request from the Competition Committee.
- 16.39. The sessions of the Appeals Committee may be held in person, by telephone, videoconference and/or any other electronic means, with at least 2 members participating in the meeting.
- 16.40. The decisions of the Appeals Committee will be sent to the Clubs and will be published on the official website of the Competition.
- 16.41. Decisions will be made by a simple majority of the Appeals Committee members.

17. SANCTION CATALOGUE

The sanctions that can be determined and applied by the Disciplinary Committee are:

CLUBS:

- 17.1. Warning;
- 17.2. Cautions;
- 17.3. Fine / Economic Sanctions;
- 17.4. Prize cancellation;
- 17.5. Play behind closed doors (e.g. no fans);
- 17.6. Match with a limited number of spectators.
- 17.7. Play on neutral ground;
- 17.8. Veto notice;
- 17.9. Stadium veto;
- 17.10. Forfeiture;
- 17.11. Annulment of the result of a match; and/or
- 17.12. Exclusion from ongoing or future competitions.

PLAYERS, TECHNICAL STAFF AND CLUB EMPLOYEES:

- 17.13. Warning;
- 17.14. Fine / Economic Sanctions;
- 17.15. Red card;
- 17.16. Time suspension;



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- 17.17. Match suspension;
- 17.18. Temporary suspension;
- 17.19. Prohibition of access to the field, the dressing rooms, or to sit on the substitute bench;
- 17.20. Prohibition of access to stadiums; and/or
- 17.21. Prohibition of exercising any activity in Leagues Cup related to soccer.

ECONOMIC SANCTIONS (FINES)

- 17.22. Fines will be calculated in United States Dollars (USD).
- 17.23. The fines must be covered by those to whom they are imposed, considering the following:
 - 17.23.1. The Participating Club is responsible for the fines imposed on its players, members of the technical staff, and/or Participating Club employees, due to violations of the Tournament Regulations or Leagues Cup Guidelines & Policies.
 - 17.23.2. The fines will be reduced directly from the amounts disbursed to Participating Clubs pursuant to Section 31 of these Tournament Guidelines.
- 17.24. The amount collected from disciplinary procedures, appeals and fines from Clubs, players, members of the technical staff, Club employees, will be allocated to a social responsibility initiative determined by the Organizing Committee.

PLAYER SANCTIONS

- 17.25. Any player cautioned or sent off the field by the Match Referee will be subject to the specified sanctions. This sanction will be applied automatically and cannot be appealed. However, if they are increased by the Disciplinary Committee, they may be appealed in accordance with the procedure opening process explained above.
- 17.26. The player who commits any of the following offenses will be cautioned:
 - 17.26.1. Delaying the restart of play;
 - 17.26.2. Dissent by word or action;
 - 17.26.3. Entering, re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the Match Referee's permission;
 - 17.26.4. Failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a dropped ball, corner kick, free kick or throw-in;
 - 17.26.5. Persistent offenses (no specific number or pattern of offenses constitutes 'persistent');
 - 17.26.6. Unsporting behavior;
 - 17.26.7. Entering the referee review area (RRA); or
 - 17.26.8. Excessively using the 'review' (TV screen) signal.



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- 17.27. Two yellow cards in the same Competition Match determine the expulsion (“indirect” red card) and the automatic suspension for the following Match.
- 17.28. Yellow cards are cumulative from the Group Stage up to the Round of 16. The player who is sanctioned three (3) times between the Group Stage and up to the Round of 16 will be suspended for one (1) match. If the player obtained his third yellow card in the Round of 16 game, he would serve his sanction in the Quarterfinal Round.
- 17.29. Before starting the Quarterfinal Round, all yellow cards will be reset, and their count will begin again.
- 17.30. If a player accumulates three (3) yellow cards between the Group Stage and the Round of 16 and/or between the Quarterfinals, Semifinals, Final and/or Third-Place match and the Club is eliminated, the suspension must be fulfilled in the next edition of the Competition.
- 17.31. The player who commits any of the following offenses will be expelled and/or penalized with suspensions, as follows:
- 17.31.1. Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by a handball offense (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area): 1 match
 - 17.31.2. Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender’s goal by an offense punishable by a free kick (unless as outlined below): 1 match
 - 17.31.3. Serious foul play: 1 to 2 matches
 - 17.31.4. Biting or spitting at someone: 6 or more matches
 - 17.31.5. Violent conduct: 1 to 6 matches
 - 17.31.6. Using offensive, insulting, or abusive language and/or action(s): 1 to 6 matches
 - 17.31.7. Receiving a second caution in the same match: 1 match
 - 17.31.8. Disrespect to the Match Referees and/or Match Officials: 1 match
 - 17.31.9. Insult to the Match Referees and/or Match Officials: 1 to 3 matches
 - 17.31.10. Entering the video operation room (VOR): 1 match
- 17.32. The Disciplinary Committee may increase the sanctions when the offenses are committed against Match Referees and/or Match Officials and/or publicly incite violence and/or provoke the public.

OTHER PLAYER SANCTIONS

- 17.33. The Disciplinary Committee will have the power to penalize players with suspensions who commit any of the following infractions:



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- 17.33.1. Threaten the Match Referees and/or Match Officials on the field, entrances, corridors, dressing rooms or any place inside the stadium, before, during and/or after the match: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.33.2. Breach the principles of sportsmanship and "Fair Play", through actions and/or mockery towards Match Referees and/or Match Officials, players, Clubs, spectators, or Leagues Cup Directives and Authorities: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.33.3. Enter the field to insult players, Match Referees and/or Match Officials: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.33.4. Incite, provoke, disrespect or insult players or members of the technical staff of the same Club or the opposing Club: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.33.5. Insulting a person authorized by the Organizing Committee to enter the field, regardless of the function performed, before, during and/or after the match: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.33.6. Disrupt a match by any means, even if the individual has been ejected from the match: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.33.7. Failure to diligently abide by the provisions of the Match Referees and/or Match Officials: 1 to 2 matches
- 17.33.8. Incite the public to carry out inappropriate, aggressive or vandal acts against any person: 1 to 4 matches
- 17.33.9. Start or participate in a mass confrontation: 1 to 6 matches
- 17.33.10. Failure to comply with Leagues Cup Guidelines & Policies: 1 to 3 matches

17.34. The Disciplinary Committee may sanction players for the above infractions directly or at the request of a party, regardless of whether the players have been warned by the Match Referees and/or Match Officials.

ECONOMIC PLAYER SANCTIONS

17.35. The Disciplinary Committee will have the power to establish economic sanctions for players in addition to the sporting sanctions according to the seriousness of the offense. Economic sanctions may range from two hundred United States Dollars (USD \$200) to ten thousand United States dollars (USD \$10,000).

TECHNICAL STAFF SANCTIONS

17.36. When a member of the technical staff commits an infraction, but the offender cannot be identified, the Head Coach will be admonished.

17.37. In general, the following infractions will result in a warning; however, the repetition of the infraction or its possible inappropriate nature could lead to a reprimand or even expulsion:

- 17.37.1. Entering the field of play in a respectful/non-confrontational manner;
- 17.37.2. Failing to cooperate with a Match Referee (e.g., ignoring an instruction/request from an Assistant Match Referee or the Fourth Official);

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- 17.37.3. Minor/low-level disagreement (by word or action) with a decision; or
- 17.37.4. Occasionally leaving the confines of the technical area without committing another offense.

17.38. The members of the technical staff who commit any of the following offenses will be sanctioned with cautions:

- 17.38.1. Clearly/persistently not respecting the confines of their team's technical area;
- 17.38.2. Delaying the restart of play by their team;
- 17.38.3. Deliberately entering the technical area of the opposing team (non-confrontational);
- 17.38.4. Dissent by word or action including:
 - 17.38.4.1. Throwing/kicking drinks bottles or other objects;
 - 17.38.4.2. Action(s) which show(s) a clear lack of respect for the match official(s) e.g., sarcastic clapping;
- 17.38.5. Entering the referee review area (RRA);
- 17.38.6. Excessively/persistently gesturing for a red or yellow card;
- 17.38.7. Excessively showing the 'TV signal' for a VAR 'review';
- 17.38.8. Acting in a provocative or inflammatory manner;
- 17.38.9. Persistent unacceptable behavior (including repeated warning offenses); or
- 17.38.10. Showing a lack of respect for the game.

17.39. Two yellow cards in the same match determine the expulsion ("indirect" red card) and the automatic suspension for the following match.

17.40. Yellow cards are cumulative from the Group Stage up to the Round of 16. The member of the technical staff who is sanctioned three (3) times between the Group Stage and up to the Round of 16 will be suspended for one (1) match. If the individual obtained a third yellow card in the Round of 16 game, he/she will serve the sanction in the Quarterfinal Round.

17.41. Before starting the Quarterfinal Round, all yellow cards will be reset, and their count will begin again.

17.42. If a member of the technical staff accumulates three (3) yellow cards between the Group Stage and the Round of 16 and/or between the Quarterfinals, Semifinals, Final and/or match for third place and the Club is eliminated, the suspension must be fulfilled in the next edition of the Competition.

17.43. Members of the technical staff who commit any of the following offenses will be sanctioned with sending-off and issued the following suspensions:

- 17.43.1. Delaying the restart of play by the opposing team (e.g., holding onto the ball, kicking the ball away, obstructing the movement of a player): 1 match

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- 17.43.2. Deliberately leaving the technical area to show dissent towards, or remonstrate with, a Match Referee and/or Match Official, or act in a provocative or inflammatory manner: 1 match
- 17.43.3. Entering the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner: 1 match
- 17.43.4. Deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the field of play: 1 match
- 17.43.5. Entering the field of play to confront a Match Referee and/or Match Official (including at half-time and full-time) or to interfere with play, an opposing player Match Referee and/or Match Official: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.43.6. Entering the video operation room (VOR): 1 match
- 17.43.7. Physical or aggressive behavior (including spitting or biting) towards an opposing player, substitute, team official, match official, spectator or any other person (e.g., ball boy/girl, security, or competition official etc.): 6 or more matches
- 17.43.8. Receiving a second caution in the same match: 1 match
- 17.43.9. Using offensive, insulting, or abusive language and/or action(s): 1 to 3 matches
- 17.43.10. Using unauthorized electronic or communication equipment and/or behaving in an inappropriate manner as a result of using electronic or communication equipment: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.43.11. Violent conduct: 1 to 6 matches

17.44. The Disciplinary Committee may increase the sanctions when the offenses are committed against Match Referees and/or Match Officials and/or publicly incite violence and/or provoke the public.

OTHER TECHNICAL STAFF SANCTIONS

- 17.45. The Disciplinary Committee will have the power to penalize members of the technical staff who commit any of the following infractions with suspensions:
- 17.45.1. Threaten Match Referees and/or Match Officials on the field, entrances, corridors, dressing rooms or any place inside the stadium, before, during and/or after the match: 1 to 3 matches
 - 17.45.2. Breach the principles of sportsmanship and "Fair Play", through actions and/or mockery towards Match Referees and/or Match Officials, players, Clubs, spectators, Leagues Cup Directives and Authorities: 1 to 4 matches
 - 17.45.3. Excessive goals celebration: 1 to 2 matches
 - 17.45.4. Smoking / vaping on the field, benches, technical area, and dressing rooms before, during and/or after the match: 1 match
 - 17.45.5. Entering the field of play to insult players, Match Referees and/or Match Official: 1 to 6 matches



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- 17.45.6. Insulting a person authorized by the Organizing Committee to enter the field, regardless of the function performed, before, during and/or after the match: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.45.7. Disrupt a match by any means, even if the individual has been ejected from the match: 1 to 5 matches
- 17.45.8. Persistent unacceptable behavior (including repeated warning offenses): 1 to 2 matches
- 17.45.9. Delaying in any way the start or restart of the game or ordering the technical staff or substitute players to enter the field of play with the purpose of deliberately delaying the start or restart of the game: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.45.10. Fake aggressions from the spectators: 1 to 3 matches
- 17.45.11. Incite the public against the Match Referees and/or Match Officials or Leagues Cup Authorities: 1 to 5 matches
- 17.45.12. Incite the public to carry out inappropriate, aggressive or vandal acts against any person: 1 to 4 matches
- 17.45.13. Start or participate in a mass confrontation: 1 to 6 matches
- 17.45.14. Failure to comply with Leagues Cup Guidelines & Policies: 1 to 3 matches

MEDICAL STAFF SANCTIONS

- 17.46. In the case of Club medical staff who incur an infraction that warrants a Competition Match expulsion, in order to safeguard the players, the Club medical staff member shall not leave the field and shall continue to perform their duties in the Match if they are expelled before or during the Match. The expulsion will be transferred to one of the members of the technical staff who will leave the field, and the matter will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee.
- 17.47. Subsequently, if so determined by the Disciplinary Committee, a fine may be imposed, increasing for each match of suspension contemplated by the reason for the expulsion or determined by the Disciplinary Committee.

ECONOMIC TECHNICAL STAFF SANCTIONS

- 17.48. The Disciplinary Committee will have the power to establish economic sanctions for technical staff members in addition to the sporting sanctions according to the seriousness of the offense. Economic sanctions may range from two hundred American United States Dollars (USD \$200) to ten thousand American United States Dollars (USD \$10,000).



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CLUB SANCTIONS

Participating Clubs shall abide by the following provisions:

- 17.49. Make adequate use of the video board.
- 17.50. Clubs must submit their rosters of players and coaching technical staff members on the stipulated dates and at the stipulated times.
- 17.51. Clubs must register their game uniforms (players and goalkeepers) on the established dates.
- 17.52. The Clubs must arrive at the stadium ninety (90) ninety minutes before the start of the match.
- 17.53. Present the lineup to the Match Referee seventy-five (75) minutes before the start of the match, respecting the provisions of these Tournament Regulations regarding injured players once the lineup sheet has been submitted.
- 17.54. Not to delay the start of the first half or second half of the match for any reason.
- 17.55. The director, employee or official of any Club that enters the field of play, field and/or dressing rooms, with the purpose of attempting to assault or consummate aggression to the Match Referee, Match Commissioner, players, technical staff, or other Match Officials, shall be sanctioned.
- 17.56. Any director, employee or official of any Club who remains on the field of play, even when the Match Referees and/or Match Officials have warned him/her that he/she is not allowed to stay in that place and he/she is reported, shall be sanctioned.
- 17.57. It is strictly forbidden for all persons belonging to a Club to smoke or vape on the field of play, tunnels, corridors and/or technical area.
- 17.58. Clubs are responsible for the improper conduct of their employees, companions, participants, and other personnel, whether or not they are accredited during a Match.
- 17.59. Clubs that do not use the official balls will be sanctioned.
- 17.60. Respect for these Tournament Regulations, and other protocols, guidelines, and directives applicable to the Tournament.
- 17.61. Without prejudice to what is established by other provisions, the Participating Clubs that do not comply with the obligations contained in the Tournament Regulations, and other protocols, guidelines, and directives for the Competition, including the guidelines and protocols for infrastructure, security, communication, and marketing, will be sanctioned

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financially from one thousand United States Dollars (USD\$1,000) up to fifty thousand United States Dollars (USD\$50,000).

ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS

Additional sanctions shall be imposed for the following offenses as appropriate in each case:

- 17.62. Failure to maintain a neutral stance on political and/or religious issues: Warning and/or 1 – 3 match suspension.
- 17.63. Conduct that is detrimental to “Fair Play”, sport, fair play, and federated soccer in general: Warning and/or 1 – 3 match suspension.
- 17.64. Those who do not address with respect, prudence, honesty, or those who do not provide clear and truthful information to the media and/or social networks: Warning and/or 1 – 3 match suspension.
- 17.65. Any player, member of the technical staff and/or Club official who, through the media and/or social networks, criticizes or makes negative comments about the tournament, refereeing and/or VAR: Warning and/or 1 match suspension.

SANCTION COMPLIANCE

- 17.66. The suspensions issued by the Disciplinary Committee to players, technical staff members, Club officials, and employees will be absolute. Therefore, the person who has been suspended of the activities of his position will be prevented from carrying out all activities of a sporting nature.
- 17.67. The suspensions imposed on players and technical staff members must be fulfilled in Competition Matches; consequently, in no way will they be computed to suspensions imposed in matches of different official competitions, except in serious cases that the respective league considers, having the power to transfer the sanction to its official competitions.
- 17.68. As a general rule, in the Competition, serious cases shall be considered as those involving a sanction of 5 or more matches of suspension.
- 17.69. The suspensions imposed by the Disciplinary Committee must be served immediately following matches of the Competition.
- 17.70. Players and/or technical staff members who are suspended must watch the match from a box club suite in the stadium or in a place isolated from spectators.

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- 17.71. The suspensions applied by the Disciplinary Committee to players and/or technical staff members and/or employees and/or Club officials imply the prohibition to enter the field of play, as well as to remain in their locker rooms and their accesses to the field, before, during and after the match in which they are serving the sanction, and may only remain in corridors and tunnels to the exit at the time of their sending off.
- 17.72. Head Coaches who are sent off during a match or serving a sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Committee will not be able to attend the press conference and their place will be occupied by the Assistant Coach of the Club. Head Coaches will be allowed to participate in the next game Match Day -1 press conference.
- 17.73. Players and members of the technical staff who do not continue in the Competition and who have pending sanctions must comply with all discipline in the next edition of the Competition.
- 17.74. If a player and/or member of the technical staff receives a third yellow card in the Final or the Third-Place match, this individual must serve the sanction in the next edition of the Competition.
- 17.75. Players and technical staff members who, after having been dismissed, remain in tunnels and/or corridors, or return to the field, as well as those who are serving a suspension applied by the Disciplinary Committee, enter the field or remain in tunnels and/or corridors, and who make protests, claims to Match Referees and/or Match Officials, or who disrespect or insult any player, technical staff members, officials or spectators, even after the match has already ended, will be imposed an additional one (1) match suspension.

18. MEDICAL AND DOPING CONTROL

- 18.1. The Medical and Doping protocols are developed and agreed to by the Medical Departments of Major League Soccer and LIGA MX for use during Leagues Cup. Detailed protocols and procedures are distributed to each Club from Major League Soccer and LIGA MX as part of the Tournament Regulations.
- 18.2. Prior to the start of the Competition, all participating players are required to have approved entrance medical examinations as part of their respective League's rules and regulations. This includes baseline concussion testing inclusive of the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT).
- 18.3. Each Club is required to have a duly licensed medical professional (e.g., physician, athletic trainer/therapist) as part of its official delegation. Such medical professional must be fully integrated and familiar with all medical aspects of the delegation and must remain with the delegation throughout the Competition. Additionally, each Club must travel with basic medical supplies, including an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED).

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- 18.4. Venue Medical Directors (VMDs) appointed by the Organizing Committee will be present at every match and are responsible for the care and well-being of both Participating Clubs, Match Referees and Match Officials during the Competition Match and will have the final decision on medical emergencies that occur during the Match, including cardiovascular and head injuries, as well as be familiar with the relevant venue's Emergency Action Plan ("EAP"). VMDs will be in communication with dedicated Tournament Spotters who will monitor every match through the Medical Sideline Review (MSR) system, to assist with identifying potential head injuries.
- 18.4.1 Additionally, the VMD will be the primary point of contact and act as the liaison to the visiting team while they are in market and be the main point of contact for the Organizing Committee in the event of a medical issue.
- 18.5. Any player who is diagnosed with a concussion must be withheld from Competition Match play for a minimum of 5 days (120 hours). All players will follow return-to-play guidelines as outlined in the Tournament Regulations.
- 18.6. Doping is strictly prohibited. The FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code and all other relevant FIFA as well as Concacaf Regulations, circulars and directives shall apply to the Competition. A Therapeutic Use Exemption ("TUE") application will be filed by the Club doctor as outlined in the Tournament Regulations if necessary.
- 18.6.1 All players are subject to testing at any time during the Tournament; provided, however, if a player suffers an injury or illness and taken to the hospital or is otherwise required to leave the stadium during a match, that player will not be required to return to the stadium for testing. In addition, reference is made to the FIFA anti-doping control regulations and the list of prohibited substances and methods per World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
- 18.7 The Organizing Committee shall not be held liable for any injury sustained by any participating player or official. Equally, the Organizing Committee shall not be held liable for any incident (including death) linked to any injury or health problem(s) of any participating player or official.
- 18.8 As stated in these Tournament Regulations, each Participating Club shall be responsible throughout the Competition for providing health, travel, and accident insurance coverage for all the members of its delegation throughout the Competition. In addition, and in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players, the Club with which any participating player is registered shall be responsible for the player's insurance coverage against illness and accident during the entire period of the player's release.



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18.9 The Organizing Committee will provide medical services before, during and after the match for the care of Clubs, Match Officials, and spectators, such as:

- 18.9.1 VMD
- 18.9.2 Two (2) Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances.
- 18.9.3 Stretcher with support staff (four (4) stretcher-bearers)
- 18.9.4 An equipped ambulance during visiting team training sessions

19. MATCH REFEREES

- 19.1. The Referees, Assistant Referees, and Fourth Officials, VAR, and AVAR (each, referred to as a **“Match Referee”** and collectively, the **“Match Referees”**) for the Tournament will be appointed for each match by the Concacaf Referee Committee. Match Referees shall be selected from the Concacaf International Refereeing list in force; provided, however, certain referees not on the Concacaf International Refereeing list may be selected in a collective effort with the Leagues Cup Organizing Committee.
- 19.2. Every effort to appoint neutral Match Referees will be made; provided, however, neutralities may not be possible for VAR and AVAR appointments due to an insufficient number of officials from neutral country.
- 19.3. If the Match Referee is unable to perform his or her duties, such Referee shall be replaced by the Fourth Official. If one of the assistant Referees is unable to perform his or her duties, such assistant Referee shall be replaced by the assistant reserve Referee.
- 19.4. The Match Referees will receive the official refereeing kit and equipment for each match, which must be used on the days of Competition Matches.
- 19.5. The Match Referees will be able to use the training facilities located at the corresponding venue of the Competition.
- 19.6. After each Competition Match, the Match Referee will complete and send through the Competition System the match report forms, no later than 60 minutes after the end of the Match.
- 19.7. In the report form, the Match Referee will note, together with the result of the Match, all incidents before, during and after the Match in as much detail as possible, for example:
 - 19.7.1. Misconduct of the players, technical staff members and/or Club officials, which have resulted in a reprimand or expulsion.
 - 19.7.2. Unsportsmanlike behavior of players, technical staff members and/or Club officials in a Match.
 - 19.7.3. Unsportsmanlike behavior of any spectator.

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- 19.7.4. Any other incident.
- 19.7.5. The incidents described in the Match Referee's report are presumed to be true, unless proven otherwise.

20. VIDEO ASSISTANT REFEREE

- 20.1. During Competition Matches, video review technology will be used, in accordance with the VAR protocol established by FIFA and IFAB. A video assistant referee ("VAR") and an assistant video assistant referee ("AVAR") will handle all aspects of video review.
 - 20.1.1. Concacaf will designate VAR and AVAR for each Match.
 - 20.1.2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in principle, a Competition Match shall not be invalidated due to:
 - 20.1.2.1. VAR technology failure(s) (as to finish line technology);
 - 20.1.2.2. Incorrect VAR decisions.
 - 20.1.2.3. Decisions not to review an incident; and/or
 - 20.1.2.4. Reviews of a non-reviewable situation/decision.
- 20.2. The Organizing Committee will administer the video review in accordance with the current FIFA and Concacaf regulations.

21. MATCH COMMISSIONERS

- 21.1. The Organizing Committee shall appoint a Match Commissioner in all the Matches.
- 21.2. The Match Commissioner is the highest authority in a football match off the pitch, so he/she will be responsible for monitoring both the proper organization, safety, and smooth development of the Competition Match, in accordance with the Tournament Regulations. The functions of the Commissioner are, among others:
 - 21.2.1. Be in the venue where the Match will be played at least 3 hours before the start of the Match.
 - 21.2.2. Stadium Inspection: verify the condition of the pitch, field marking, substitute benches, corner pennants, electronic whiteboard, billboards, positions of the television cameras in the area surrounding the pitch, press area, entrance access to the field upon accreditation, dressing rooms of the Clubs and Referee room, doping control room, medical services, portable AED of both the local and the visiting Club, security, access in general, location, arrival and equipment of the ambulance (s), box assigned to the visiting Club, closed circuit television, Command Center, sponsorship material, etc., as well as inform the local Club of the identified faults in order to make the corrections immediately.

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- 21.2.3. Schedule, if necessary, a Match Coordination Meeting with a representative of the Match Referees, as well as with the representatives of the home and visiting Clubs two hours prior to the meeting in order to verify the game uniforms that will be used in the match and thus avoid any confusion.
- 21.2.4. Receive and help the Match Referees and the participating Clubs in the stadium.
- 21.2.5. Review with the Clubs the countdown to the start of the Match in accordance with the guidelines established by the Organizing Committee.
- 21.2.6. Monitor together with the Fourth Referee that the guidelines for the use of local sound and TV screens are met during the development of the Match.
- 21.2.7. Supervise the security measures established by the authorities for each of the Matches according to the risk.
- 21.2.8. Be present during the anti-doping tests and attest that everything is done under the rules indicated for this purpose.
- 21.2.9. The Match Commissioner, in coordination the Security Lead, shall write a report containing in detail the incidents that occurred before, during and after the Match, on and off the field. This report will be sent through the Competition System to the Organizing Committee no later than twelve (12) hours after the Match has ended. The Organizing Committee shall turn it over to the Disciplinary Committee. This report will be officially valid and will be sent to the Clubs within seventy-two (72) hours after the end of the Match and may be used by the Disciplinary Committee as support in matters within its competence.
- 21.2.10. Supervise the arrival of both Clubs at the Match venue.
- 21.2.11. Supervise training sessions in the days leading up to the Match and official training.
- 21.2.12. Lead the Match Coordination Meeting.
- 21.2.13. Supervise the headquarter hotels and training camps.
- 21.2.14. Supervise the transportation of the Clubs in their official movements.
- 21.2.15. Supervise that the Club receives official balls and hydration.
- 21.2.16. Supervise compliance with the press conference and official pre-match and post-match interviews
- 21.2.17. The facts described in the Match Commissioner Report enjoy a presumption of veracity, unless proven otherwise.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

If before the end of regulation time a Match is interrupted or postponed by the Match Commissioner, the Security Lead, and/or the Referees, due to a cause of force majeure or any other incident, the following guidelines will be followed:

- 21.3. Identify the crisis
- 21.4. The Match Commissioner and Security Lead shall call the Crisis Management Group or Groups, which shall include the following persons:

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- 21.4.1. Representatives of both Clubs
- 21.4.2. Match Commissioner
- 21.4.3. Security Lead
- 21.4.4. Stadium authorities
- 21.4.5. Private Security Manager of the event
- 21.4.6. Municipal and/or State Public Security Manager
- 21.4.7. VMD
- 21.4.8. Media officer
- 21.4.9. Referee (if necessary)

- 21.5. Once the Crisis Management Group has concluded its meeting, the Match Commissioner and Security Lead must inform the Organizing Committee about the recommendations made by the crisis group, so that they can make the final decision on the matter.
- 21.6. Once the final decision is received by the Organizing Committee, the Match Commissioner and Security Lead must inform the teams, Match Referees and others involved in the Match.
- 21.7. Additionally, the corresponding Organizing Committee will officially notify the resolution electronically or digitally to the Clubs.
- 21.8. Finally, the Communication and Media departments will have to prepare the official press release that will be made public through the official platforms.

22. STADIUMS AND TRAINING GROUNDS

- 22.1. All Clubs participating in the Competition that act as the Host Venue Team must ensure that their stadium meets the standards for hosting International Matches, the playing fields, facilities, and accessory equipment must be in optimal condition and must comply with the regulations stipulated in the Laws of the Game, FIFA Stadium Regulations and other regulations.
- 22.2. The Organizing Committee will conduct pre-start inspections to ensure that stadiums are ready to conduct the Competition.

FIELD OF PLAY SURFACE

- 22.3. The field of play can be:
 - 22.3.1. Natural grass with an efficient irrigation system for all weather; or
 - 22.3.2. Artificial turf in accordance with FIFA Quality standards with valid FIFA certificate not exceeding 2 years.

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- 22.4. It is the obligation of the Clubs acting as Host Venue Team to maintain the field and warm-up area in excellent condition, under international standards and the measures established by the Laws of the Game.
- 22.5. Although the Laws of the Game stipulate the maximum and minimum dimensions of the pitch, it is recommended that a stadium offers a larger green area.
- 22.6. Accordingly, all the stadiums must adhere the following:
- 22.6.1. Pitch: Between 100 and 110 m long and between 64 and 74 m wide; and
 - 22.6.2. The height of grass must not exceed 30 mm throughout the pitch, in case of having a greater height it must be cut.
- 22.7. The playing field may be watered under the following guidelines:
- 22.7.1. Between 120 - 60 minutes before the start of the Match
 - 22.7.2. Between 15-10 minutes before the start of the Match, when the Clubs have finished their warm-up.
 - 22.7.3. At half time, for a period of no more than 5 minutes, respecting the warm-up of the Clubs.
 - 22.7.4. Watering must be uniform, not being able to water only one area of the pitch.
 - 22.7.5. In case the weather conditions do not allow it or at the consideration of the Match Commissioner.

DRESSING ROOMS

- 22.8. A minimum of three (3) independent dressing rooms for the Participating Clubs and the Match, Referees with a minimum capacity for 35 people, and must be equipped with sanitary facilities in adequate number for their capacity, with showers provided with hot and cold water, as well as with sufficient lockers for the protection of the belongings of players and a wireless internet connection (WIFI).
- 22.9. On match days all locker rooms will have hydration service, ice and fruit bar based on the provisions of Appendix of Operations Guidelines
- 22.10. The Host Venue Team needs to install in the referees dressing room a laptop, printer and WIFI connection for the administration electronic reports of the referees.

OTHER AREAS

- 22.11. Medical Service Area for the attention of players and the general public.
- 22.12. Have a portable AED, independent of the ambulances and the Clubs.

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- 22.13. Doping control area.
- 22.14. Closed circuit television (CCTV) system.
- 22.15. A Command Center that concentrates the CCTV screens, preferably with overlooking the field (where possible).
- 22.16. The stadiums must have wireless internet available on the field and grandstand so that representatives of the press can perform their functions.
- 22.17. Ramps, access, seats, and areas in general for people with different abilities.
- 22.18. Enough public bathrooms, with running water and with impeccable cleanliness before, during and after the game.
- 22.19. There must be a press box, press conference room, photographer work room and mixed zone for media use.
- 22.20. Clubs acting as Host Venue Team must provide two electronic change boards.
- 22.21. All stadiums must have a clock that must show the playing time and must stop at minute 45 of the first half and 90 of the second half.
- 22.22. In stadiums where there are video boards must respect the following policy:
- 22.22.1. Any Club manipulation of video board replays in any manner (e.g., slow-motion, freeze frame, zoom). For the avoidance of doubt, the manipulation of a replay by broadcast is not considered a violation of the Policy.
 - 22.22.2. Showing a single video board replay angle more than one (1) time. Controversial replays may include, but are not limited to:
 - 22.22.2.1. A potential send-off decision for serious foul play, violent conduct, or the denial of a goal-scoring opportunity, regardless of whether a red card, yellow card or no card is shown by the Referee.
 - 22.22.2.2. Any decision in the penalty area that results in the awarding of a penalty kick, or the non-awarding of a penalty kick when one may have been warranted.
 - 22.22.2.3. Any goal that enters into a video review as signaled by the Referee.
 - 22.22.2.4. Any play not described above which would serve to exacerbate hostilities between the players/coaches of each Club, between players/coaches and Officials, between players/coaches and fans, between Officials and fans or between groups of fans.
 - 22.22.2.5. League policy does not allow airing footage on the video board, either live or on tape, of any fan misconduct (e.g., running on or across the

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field of play, fighting, smoke devices, and flares) that disrupt play or violate the venue regulations. It is the responsibility of each Clubs' in-house production crew to comply with this policy for the video board show. Directors and camera persons should focus on off-the-field shots until the match resumes.

- 22.23. The Clubs that act as Host Venue Team must respect the guidelines and commercial provisions established in the Commercial Manual of the Competition related to signage, posters, and any advertising space inside and outside the stadium.
- 22.24. All stadiums must provide an office with internet, electricity, and furniture for the exclusive use of the administrative and operational staff of the Competition who will be participating in each of the matches.

LIGHTING

- 22.25. All stadiums must meet the minimum lighting requirements and must have an average intensity of one thousand five hundred (1,500) lights throughout the field.
- 22.26. An emergency power generator or power plant must be in place in case of a power interruption to ensure that the minimum required lighting is restored, and the Match continues.
- 22.27. Likewise, there must be a generator or emergency plant to guarantee lighting in accesses, corridors, grandstands, dressing rooms and common areas.
- 22.28. Parking areas should also be well lit for the correct flow of people before, during and at the end of the Match.
- 22.29. All Matches will be lit in full seventy-five (75) minutes before the start or before sunset.

STADIUM SECURITY

- 22.30. For the 2023 edition of the Tournament, the Clubs will be responsible for developing a security plan that provides security inside and outside the stadium for all participants and spectators before, during and until the end of the match.
- 22.31. On Match Day -1 the Security Lead will hold the security meeting where the security plan for the Match will be detailed.
- 22.32. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to request, if it considers it to do so, improvements in the security plan, as well as the increase of security elements in areas that it considers to be at high risk.

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23. TRAINING SESSIONS

TRAINING DURING THE TOURNAMENT

23.1. The Organizing Committee shall provide during the entire Competition to all Clubs acting as traveling teams training fields in perfect conditions with all the necessary services and quality standards.

OFFICIAL TRAINING SESSION IN THE STADIUM

23.2. On the day prior to the match (MD-1), if the weather conditions and the availability of the stadium permit, the Clubs will have the opportunity to conduct a training session at the stadium, with a maximum duration of eighty (80) minutes of training for each participating Club.

23.3. If the stadium has an artificial pitch, the training session may last maximum of two (2) hours.

23.4. The training schedule will be agreed between the Clubs and the Organizing Committee, with preference in choosing the Club that travels or away team.

23.5. During the official training session, the Clubs shall have the right to use the locker room area and other areas deemed necessary to conduct the training session.

23.6. If desired, the Match Referees of the match may also have an official training session with a maximum duration of one (1) hour.

23.7. During the official training sessions, the media shall have the right to fifteen (15) minutes to record aspects of the training. This activity will be coordinated between the Club's press officer and the media officer of the Competition at the venue, as well as hosting match conferences on Match Day -1

23.8. For the Final and the Third-Place match, the Participating Clubs must obligatorily hold a training session in the stadium with a maximum duration of one (1) hour, receiving the media for 15 minutes, as well as hosting match conferences on Match Day -1

23.9. If weather conditions do not allow the training session to be held at the stadium, the visiting Club may hold the training session at the alternate field with similar quality of pitch, dimensions and if necessary, lighting.

23.10. As a follow-up to the previous point, the visiting Club shall be entitled to a reconnaissance session to walk with sneakers in the different areas of the stadium, including the field of play if the Match Commissioner considers that the conditions exist to do so.

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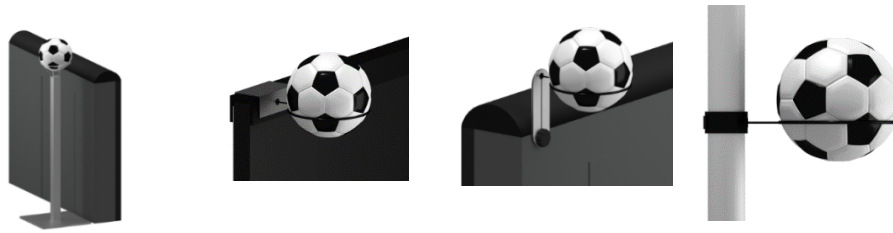
24. MATCH BALLS

- 24.1. The Organizing Committee will provide each Participating Club with thirty (30) official Adidas soccer balls for use in the training sessions, which will be delivered to the Club's hotel. Each Participating Club shall be responsible for bringing the soccer balls to the stadium.
- 24.2. During the Competition, only the official balls provided by the Organizing Committee may be used in training sessions in alternate venues and stadiums.
- 24.3. The Organizing Committee shall provide the home Club with a minimum of seventeen (17) official match balls (which may be previously used match balls) for all Competition Matches. The host Participating Club shall be responsible for providing these match balls to the Match Referees. When inflated, each soccer ball must not exceed more than fourteen (14) ounces/psi and not less than twelve (12) ounces/psi. All match balls must be delivered to the Match Referee's locker room at least ninety (90) minutes prior to the start of the match to pass inspection. Replacement balls needed during the Competition Match must be provided if necessary and must be inspected by the fourth official before they are used in the match. All match balls in the possession of the Match Referees must be returned to the home Club after the match.
- 24.4. The Match balls must be distributed as established in these Tournament Regulations, as well as in the following manner:
- 24.4.1. One (1) in play;
 - 24.4.2. One (1) guarded on the Fourth Official's table of the Match or on a Ball Stand in the Fourth Official's area;
 - 24.4.3. A minimum of thirteen (13) balls placed in the Ball Stands (as shown in Section XVI);
 - 24.4.4. One (1) behind the AdTrac / LED field boards of each goal on the ground and within easy reach for the Ball Kids.

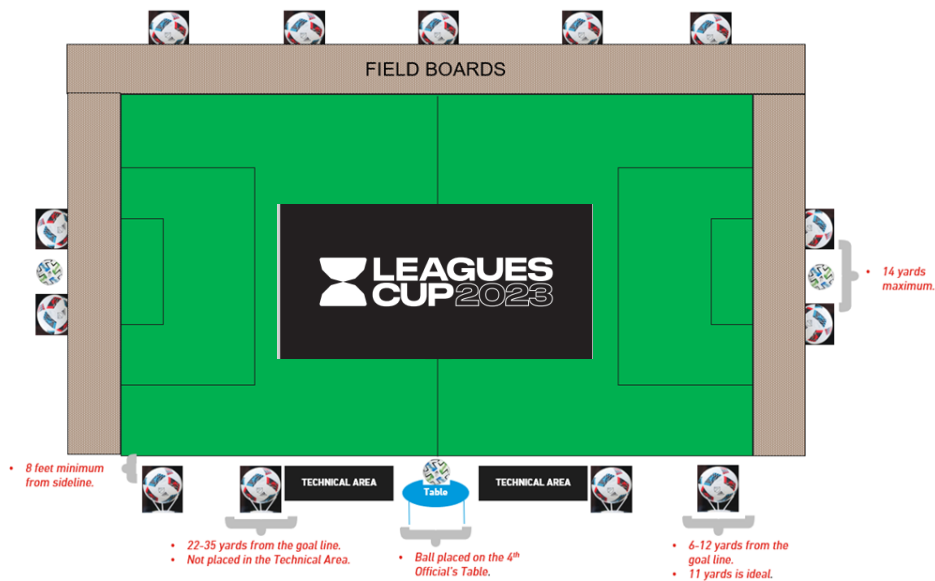
25. BALL STANDS AND BALL KIDS

- 25.1. Ball stands (each, a "**Ball Stand**") will be implemented in all Competition Matches. Each Competition Venue requires a minimum of thirteen (13) and maximum of fourteen (14) total Ball Stands in the following locations around the perimeter of the field: five (5) on the sideline opposite the benches; two (2) on both goal lines positioned on either side of the goal; two (2) outside each Club technical area for a total of four (4) on the bench sideline or five (5) if an additional stand is used at the Match Official's Table. Each Competition Venue has preselected and will be provided with Ball Stand versions suitable to their stadium confines as follows:

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25.2. Ball Stands will be placed around the field as follows:



25.3. One (1) redundancy of each Ball Stand version utilized in each Competition Venue will be stored at the venue and/or used at the Fourth Official's Table and accessible at any time. Ball Stands behind a single goal must be the same version unless two (2) different versions are necessary to accommodate stadium configurations. Ball Stands on end of the field are not required to be the same version. The Match Commissioner must ensure that Ball Stands and each respective Ball Stand ball is secure from any interference. The host Participating Club will have a minimum off four (4) Ball Kids in matching jerseys provided by the Organizing Committee (each, a "**Ball Kids**").

25.4. The host Participating Club is responsible for ensuring uniform distribution of Ball Kids around the field so that one end and/or sideline of the field is not disadvantaged, and that the procedure for returning balls to the ball stands is equal for each Participating Club.

25.5. Each Participating Club must have a Ball Kids Supervisor responsible for training the Ball Kids on their overall responsibilities and providing them with ball distribution instructions,

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including instruction on not to exhibit favoritism. In the event of a perceived attempt by a Ball Kids to exhibit favoritism toward either Participating Club in the method or speed in which a ball is returned to ball stands, the Match Commissioner or Match Official will take appropriate action immediately.

- 25.6. Players will be responsible for retrieving the ball from the Ball Stand to restart play. The Ball Kids must replace the ball on the empty Ball Stand, then immediately retrieve the errant ball and return to their positions. At no time should the Ball Retriever or any other individual deliver their ball or a Ball Stand ball directly to a player.
- 25.7. Any player who removes a ball from a Ball Stand when his Participating Club is not in possession of the restart and/or for any other inappropriate reason may be cautioned by the Match Referee for Unsporting Behavior.

26. EQUIPMENT

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND JERSEY NUMBERS

- 26.1. All Participating Clubs shall comply with the Tournament Regulations of their respective leagues which, in turn must be structured in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations regarding the use of sponsorship, branding, political, religious, personal messages in any language or form.
- 26.2. Players must use the player's name and number on the back of the game jersey. Likewise, the player's number must appear on the front of the shorts, as it appears jersey.
- 26.3. The players shall obligatorily use on the game jersey, on the back, a number of two (2) or three (3) digits maximum contrasting with the uniform, and one of the fronts of the shorts a number of two (2) or three (3) digits maximum.
- 26.4. All players must use the same jersey number with which they are registered in their respective Leagues and may not change their number for the Competition.
- 26.5. In the event of any conflict with the numbering of the players that is not foreseen in these Tournament Regulations, the Organizing Committee shall determine what is appropriate.



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UNIFORM REGISTRATION AND DESIGNATION

- 26.6. All Clubs must register at least two (2) uniforms (shirt, shorts, and socks) which must be contrasted with each other (one light and dark or the other way around).
- 26.7. All Clubs shall register at least three (3) goalkeeper uniforms with different colors than the player's uniforms.
- 26.8. Clubs must register their official uniforms for the Competition by 11:59 p.m. ET on Wednesday, July 5 for the 2023 edition of the Competition.
- 26.9. The Organizing Committee, taking into account the opinion of the Match Referees, will designate the uniforms of the Clubs (players and goalkeepers) and the Match Referees for each of the Matches, which will be sent by the Competition System to the Participating Clubs at least three (3) calendar days before their Match.
- 26.10. The colors of the uniforms and jackets will be checked during the Match Coordination Meeting, which will be held the day before the Match. If necessary, once the Participating Clubs have arrived at the stadium, the Referee will determine if the colors used may cause confusion; if so, the Referee may decide, after consultation with the Match Commissioner, that a change be made. In this case, the home Club shall change if the visiting Club's second kit is not sufficiently contrasting.

MATCH DAY UNIFORMS

- 26.11. Clubs shall travel their designated uniforms and have ready for any situation the second game uniform.
- 26.12. Clubs must have available on the bench player and goalkeeper shirts all without numbers and in different sizes identical to those designated by the Organizing Committee, so that, if necessary, a player can change and not lose game time by bringing the shirt from the locker room.
- 26.13. Clubs shall be free to use their own training and match jerseys which shall contrast against the colors of the playing uniforms. Each club shall have at least two (2) different colors of jerseys.
- 26.14. During the kick-off protocol, Participating Clubs may go out into the field of play wearing a jacket or windbreaker, provided that such garment is free of advertising and is worn by each and every member of the team. Only the brand name and club logo may be visible on the jacket or windbreaker.

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- 26.15. It is mandatory for the Club captain to wear the badge that distinguishes him as such that is provided by the Organizing Committee for this purpose.
- 26.16. If players choose to wear additional garments under the jersey such as thermal jersey or lycra and such garments protrude from the edges of the jersey or short, then the color of those materials must be the same as the color of the part of the uniform from which they protrude.

27. MATCH COORDINATION MEETING

- 27.1. It will be mandatory for Participating Clubs to participate in the match coordination meetings which will take place on MD-1 or date and hour determined by the Organizing Committee.
- 27.2. Meeting may be in person or virtual, with prior confirmation from the Organizing Committee.
- 27.3. Three (3) representatives from each Participating Club must be present, including a representative of each Club Medical Staff.
- 27.4. The Organizing Committee shall provide a captain's armband to each Participating Club. If the Organizing Committee does not provide the captain's armbands within three (3) days prior to the relevant Competition Match, each Participating Club shall use the captain's armband of its respective league.
- 27.5. Clubs must attend the meeting with their playing uniforms and jackets for physical validation of the same.

28. PRESS CONFERENCE AND AVAILABILITY WITH MEDIA

- 28.1. On MD-1 each Participating Club will do the following:
 - 28.1.1. Attend and participate the official Competition press conference event prior to or after the official MD-1 training.
 - 28.1.2. Ensure that the Head Coach and at minimum one (1) first team Participating Club players will attend such press conference for no more than thirty (30) minutes total.
 - 28.1.3. Open its MD-1 training for a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes to allow media b-roll capture.
 - 28.1.4. Have player(s) available for short one-on-one interviews with media rights holders and official Competition channels as predetermined between the Participating Club, the Organizing Committee, and the media rights holder. These requests may be accomplished prior to MD-1, in coordination with Organizing Committee and the Rights holders.



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28.1.5. Have at least two (2) players available in a media mixed-zone for interviews either immediately before or after MD-1 training session. Such mixed-zone interviews will have a maximum duration of five (5) minutes for each participating player.

28.2. On matchday, each Participating Club will:

28.2.1. Have player(s) available for pre-game interviews off the bus as pre-determined between the Participating Club, the Organizing Committee, and media rights holder.

28.2.2. Have its Head Coach participate in the post-match press conference.

28.2.3. Have at least four (4) players available in a media mixed zone for interviews following the Match. Such mixed-zone interviews will have a maximum duration of five (5) minutes for each participating player.

28.2.4. Post-game flash interviews.

28.3. Immediately after the final whistle, a player will be selected Man of the Match. He will be announced on the stadium video board and will be requested to take a photo and/or conduct interview in front of sponsored backdrop placed at/by the field.

28.4. If a player is sent off during the match, he cannot participate in the post-match media mixed zone and flash interview. If the coach is sent off during the match, he cannot participate in the post-match press conference and the Club assistant coach will take his place.

29. AWARD CEREMONY PROTOCOL

29.1. The Organizing Committee will be responsible for the organization of the awards ceremony under the following guidelines:

29.1.1. The Champion of the Competition shall be named "Leagues Cup Champion."

29.1.2. The Champion Club will receive fifty (50) first place medals.

29.1.3. The second place Club will be awarded fifty (50) medals.

29.1.4. The Match Referees that participated in the Final match will receive an award.

29.1.5. Special awards to the Best Player, Best Goalkeeper and Best Scorer of the Competition.

29.1.6. All players of both Clubs must go up to receive their medal wearing the official playing uniform, without commemorative jerseys or flags of their countries.

29.1.7. Only authorized members of the delegation may receive a medal. Children, family members or any other person not belonging to the Club may not go on stage.

29.1.8. During the awarding ceremony, the field of play must be completely clear and only Clubs (players, technical staff, officials, and authorized members), Referees, Leagues Cup authorities, Organizing Committee members television crew that transmits the international signal, authorities and operational personnel of the Competition may be present.



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- 29.1.9. Under no circumstances will any person not mentioned in the previous point be allowed to enter the field of play, all media, photographers, and other television channels must remain at the side of the field of play.
- 29.1.10. The player's families will be allowed to enter the field once the award ceremony is complete, the families cannot be on the field, during the ceremony.
- 29.1.11. The Leagues Cup trophy is a unique piece. For this reason, the winning Club receive a replica of the trophy to keep for good after the Tournament.
- 29.1.12. If one of the Finalist Clubs, players, technical staff, club official, doesn't respect the award ceremony protocol, the Disciplinary Committee will sanction the club with hundred thousand United States Dollars (USD\$100,000) fine.

SPECIAL TROPHIES DEFINITION

- 29.2. **Leagues Cup Top Scorer:** Distinction to the player who scored the most goals during the entire Competition, including Group Stage and Knockout Stage. If there is a tie between two (2) or more players, the tie-breaking criteria will be the total minutes played with the winner being the player who scored the goals in fewer minutes of participation. If there is still a tie, the goal assists of the participating players will be taken into consideration, and if the tie continues it will be determined that the players involved will receive the trophy.
- 29.3. **Leagues Cup Best Goalkeeper:** Distinction to the best goalkeeper as judged by the Organizing Committee.
- 29.4. **Leagues Cup Best Player:** Distinction to the best player as considered by the Organizing Committee.

30. FRIENDLY MATCH POLICY

- 30.1. MLS clubs are subject to the restrictions and scheduling principles outlined in the MLS Exhibition Games Policy of the MLS Club Commercial Guidelines.
- 30.2. LIGA MX clubs may not play Friendly Matches in Mexico during the period from July 20, 2023 until elimination from the Tournament and may not play Friendly Matches in the United States or Canada from the period from June 29, 2023 until the start of the September 2023 FIFA window (September 4, 2023).
- 30.3. LIGA MX clubs may play Friendly Matches in the United States or Canada prior to June 29, 2023 so long as the match is at least 100 miles away from (i) any venue the LIGA MX club is scheduled to play a Leagues Cup match in and (ii) any venue that is pre-selected to host a Leagues Cup Knockout Stage match.

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31. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 31.1. Financial sanctions imposed by the Disciplinary Committee or Appeals Committee on Participating Clubs or its players, delegation or staff will be deducted from amounts disbursed that Participating Club.
- 31.2. Expenses owed by a Participating Club which have not been paid will be deducted from amounts disbursed to that Participating Club.

32. GLOSSARY

- 32.1. Club Official / Manager: Any person exercising a function within a Club, irrespective of his/her title or the nature of his function (administrative, sporting, or other). For the purposes of this definition, players and members of technical staff are excluded.
- 32.2. Competition System: is the official electronic tool provided by the Organizing Committee, that all the participants Clubs needs to use to send the players and technical staff participant list for the Tournament, list of players and members of technical staff on MD-1 and match day lineups.
- 32.3. Disrespect: To use derogatory language, to complain to contravene, to disapprove decisions or to show a totally unsportsmanlike conduct.
- 32.4. Dressing Rooms: Physical space for the exclusive use of players, officials, Match Referees, Match Officials and Club Delegates
- 32.5. Field: Is the surface where the field of play is located and the space destined to areas for substitute players, coaching technical staff, match referees, match officials, advertising spaces, backcourt, photographers, radio, and television areas.
- 32.6. Field of Play: The field of play on which the match takes place, in accordance with the Laws of the Game as promulgated by the International Football Association Board and recognized by FIFA.
- 32.7. Friendly Match: Match that is authorized that is held outside the official Competition, and whose result only has effects for the match in question, unless serious events occur.
- 32.8. Insulting: To offend another by provoking and irritating him with profanity or obscene gestures.
- 32.9. International Match: Match played between two Clubs or National Teams belonging to different National Associations.



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- 32.10. Lineup: Is understood to be the definitive list of names of the players and members of the technical staff that are presented to the Match Referee, so that they may be recorded in the report (starters and substitutes), even if they do not participate in the corresponding match.
- 32.11. Match Day: Day on which the match is held.
- 32.12. Match Day -1 or MD-1: Day before the match.
- 32.13. Serious Foul Play: A player is guilty of serious foul play if he uses excessive force of brutality against his opponent when contesting a ball in play (i.e., ball in action during the course of a match). A tackle that endangers shall be sanctioned as serious foul play. Any player who lunges at an opponent in the contest for the ball, either from the front, from the side or from behind using one or both legs with excessive force and endangering the physical integrity of the opponent, shall be guilty of serious foul play.
- 32.14. Technical Staff: It is composed of Head Coach, Assistant Coaches, Technical Director, Technical Assistant, Doctor, Kinesiologist, Medical Assistant and/or Physiotherapist, Physician or Athletic Trainer/Therapist., Goalkeeper Trainer, etc.
- 32.15. Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Any behavior that is disrespectful to the game such as not complying with the Referee's orders, or threatening, taunting, or provoking with words, actions, or gestures to another constant protesting, lifting, or removing the shirt deliberately touching the ball with the hand to interrupt its course to another player, making marks on the field of play, disrespecting the Match Referees, among others.
- 32.16. Violent Conduct: A player is guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent without the ball being in dispute between the two. Violent conduct may occur on or off the field of play, whether or not the ball is in play. He is also guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against a teammate, a spectator, the Referees of the match or any other person.
- 32.16.1. For purposes of the definitions of Serious Foul Play and Violent Conduct, excessive force and brutality shall mean the following:
- 32.16.1.1. Excessive Force: Actions with advantage, that are improper or go beyond what is lawful and reasonable, that put the physical integrity of the adversary at risk.
 - 32.16.1.2. Brutality: Actions with excessive force with the purpose of causing harm to the opponent regardless of whether they are done through clumsiness or negligence. Likewise, members of Technical Corps, Officials and Match Referees Officials shall be guilty of violent conduct.

33. ANNEXS

DRINK BREAKS DECISION – MAKING PROCESS

- 33.1. The Organizing Committee will require the use of “drink breaks” if the ambient temperature is eighty-two (82) degrees Fahrenheit (27.7 degrees Celsius) or higher. The Venue Coordinator will be responsible for taking measurement of the ambient temperature 90 minutes prior the kickoff time and will inform the Match Referees and the Match Commissioner of the temperature reading. The Match Referee may, at any time and for any reason, implement a discretionary drink break in cases where it is determined that the players’ safety is at risk.
- 33.2. The option to implement a drink break must first be informed by the Match Referee to a member of the technical staff of each Club after each TGBH device reading. (TGBH is the device that measure the temperature in the environment,)
- 33.3. Any questions must be directed to the Match Referee.
- 33.4. The implementation and control of the drink breaks will be managed solely by the Match Referee.

IMPLEMENTATION

- 33.5. Two (2) TGBH readings will be taken during the match:
- 33.5.1. The first reading will take place prior to the start of the Competition Match, specifically, immediately after the end of the warm-up.
 - 33.5.2. If the TGBH measurement reaches or exceeds 82 degrees Fahrenheit (27.7 degrees Celsius), there will be a mandatory drink break around the 30th and 75th minutes of the Match, respectively.
 - 33.5.3. If the TGBH measurement does not reach or exceed 82 degrees Fahrenheit (27.7 degrees Celsius), there will not be a mandatory drink break at the 30th minute.
- 33.6. The second reading will take place immediately after the Match Referee blows the final whistle of the first half.
- 33.6.1. If the TGHB measurement reaches or exceeds 82 degrees Fahrenheit (27.7 degrees Celsius), there will be a mandatory drink break around the 75th minute of the match, respectively.
- 33.7. Each drink break will last between ninety (90) and one hundred and eighty (180) seconds.

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- 33.8. If the TGHB drops at least ten (10) degrees Fahrenheit (e.g., 72 degrees Fahrenheit or less) (22 degrees Celsius or less) before the 35th or 75th minute, the Match Referee may cancel the mandatory drink break.
- 33.9. In cases where the TGHB may drop at least ten (10) degrees Fahrenheit, the fourth Match Referee will be responsible for reading the temperature around the 35th or 75th minute.
- 33.10. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Match Referee may impose a discretionary drink break that must not exceed sixty (60) seconds if he/she believes that there is a safety risk for the players, even if the TGHB reading does not reach or exceed 82 degrees Fahrenheit (27.7 degrees Celsius).
- 33.10.1. The ball must not be in play for the drink break to begin. The Match Referee will signal the start of the break and will inform both Clubs and the other Referees and Club officials. The game clock shall continue to run, and all the time allocated to the drink break shall be added in the compensation time. Both Clubs shall proceed to their respective benches for the drink break.
 - 33.10.2. The players must remain inside the field.
 - 33.10.3. Coaching technical staff members cannot leave their respective technical areas.
 - 33.10.4. Bench personnel may not enter the field (except medical personnel).