

Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations

**Federazione Sammarinese Giuoco
Calcio (FSGC)**

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CONTENTS

PREAMBLE 5

Part I. General provisions	5
Article 1 – Scope of application	5
Article 2 – Objectives	5
Article 3 – Definition of terms	7
Part II. UEFA Club Licensing	14
Article 4 – Exceptions policy	Erreur
Article 5 – Responsibilities	14
Article 6 – The licensing administration	14
Article 7 – The decision-making bodies	15
Article 8 – Catalogue of sanctions	18
Article 9 – The core process	18
Article 10 – Assessment procedures	18
Article 11 – Equal treatment and confidentiality	19
Article 12 – Definition of licence applicant and three-year rule	20
Article 13 – General responsibilities of the licence applicant	20
Article 14 – UEFA Licence	20
Article 15 – Special permission	Erreur
Article 16 – General	22
Article 16bis – UEFA Women’s Champions League	22
Article 17 – Youth development programme	22
Article 18 – Youth teams	23
Article 19 – Medical care of players	23
Article 20 – Registration of players	23
Article 21 – Written contract with professional players	24
Article 22 – Refereeing matters and Laws of the Game,	24
Article 23 – Racial equality and anti-discrimination practice	24
Article 23bis – Child Protection and Welfare	24
Article 24 – Stadium for UEFA club competitions	24
Article 25 – Training facilities – Availability	25
Article 26 – Training facilities – Minimum infrastructure	25
Article 27 – Club secretariat	25
Article 28 – General manager	25
Article 29 – Finance officer	26
Article 30 – Media officer	26
Article 31 – Medical doctor	26

Article 32 – Physiotherapist	26
Article 32bis – Youth Teams Medic	26
Article 33 – Security officer	27
Article 34 – Stewards	27
Article 35 – Supporter liaison officer	27
Article 35bis - Disability access officer	27
Article 36 – Head coach of first squad	27
Article 37 – Assistant coach of first squad	28
Article 38 – Head of youth development programme	28
Article 39 – Youth coaches	28
Article 40 – Common provisions applicable to UEFA coaching qualifications under the UEFA Coaching Convention	28
Article 41 – Rights and duties	29
Article 42 – Duty of replacement during the season	29
Article 43 – Declaration in respect of participation in UEFA club competitions	30
Article 44 – Minimum legal information	30
Article 45 – Written contract with a football company	Errore. Il se
Article 46 – Legal group structure and ultimate controlling party	31
Article 46bis – Reporting entity/entities and reporting perimeter	32
Article 47 – Annual financial statements	33
Article 47bis – Publication of Financial Information	33
Article 48 – Financial statements for the interim period	Errore. Il se
Article 49 – No overdue payables towards football clubs	34
Article 50 – No overdue payables in respect of employees	35
Article 50bis – No overdue payables towards social/tax authorities	36
Article 51 – Written representations prior to the licensing decision	37
Article 52 – Future financial information	37
Part III. Final provisions	39
Article 53 – Authoritative text and language of correspondence	39
Article 54 – Annexes	39
Article 55 – UEFA Compliance audits	39
Article 56 – Disciplinary procedures	39
Article 57 – Implementing provisions	39
Article 58 – Adoption, abrogation and entry into force	39
Annex I: Core process	41
THE CHARTS BELOW ILLUSTRATE THE CORE PROCESS.	41
ANNEX II: Exceptions policy	Errore. Il se

Principle	
The process	Errore
ANNEX III: Delegation of licensing and monitoring responsibilities to an affiliated league	Errore
ANNEX IV: Extraordinary application of the club licensing system	Errore
ANNEX V: Determination of the Auditing Commission and its assessment procedures	Errore
ANNEX VI: Minimum disclosure requirements for the financial statements	2
ANNEX VII: Basis for the preparation of financial statements	12
ANNEX VIII: Notion of 'overdue payables'	14
ANNEX IX: Licensor's assessment procedures for the financial criteria and requirements	15
ANNEX X: Club Licensing criteria for the UEFA Women's Champions League	22

Preamble

Based on FSGC Statute and on the *UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations*, the following regulations have been adopted.

Part I. General provisions

Article 1 – Scope of application

- 1 These regulations apply whenever expressly referred to by specific regulations governing club competitions to be played under the auspices of UEFA (hereinafter: UEFA club competitions) and also for FSGC official competitions.
- 2 These regulations govern the rights, duties and responsibilities of all parties involved in the FSGC club licensing system and define in particular:
 - a) the minimum requirements to be fulfilled by the FSGC in order to act as the licensor for its clubs, as well as the minimum procedures to be followed by the licensor in its assessment of the club licensing criteria (chapter 1);
 - b) the licence applicant and the licence required to enter the UEFA club competitions and the FSGC championship (chapter 2);
 - c) the minimum sporting, infrastructure, personnel and administrative, legal and financial criteria to be fulfilled by a club in order to be granted a licence by FSGC as part of the admission procedure to enter the UEFA club competitions (chapter 3).⁵

Article 2 – Objectives

- 1 These regulations aim:
 - a) to further promote and continuously improve the standard of all aspects of football in San Marino and to give continued priority to the training and care of young players in every club;
 - b) to ensure that clubs have an adequate level of management and organisation;
 - c) to adapt clubs' sporting infrastructure to provide players, spectators and media representatives with suitable, well-equipped and safe facilities;
 - d) to protect the integrity and smooth running of the FSGC and UEFA club competitions;
 - e) to allow the development of benchmarking for clubs in financial, sporting, legal, personnel, administrative and infrastructure-related criteria throughout Europe.
- 2 Furthermore, these regulations aim to achieve financial fair play in FSGC and UEFA club competitions and in particular:
 - a) to improve the economic and financial capability of the clubs, increasing their transparency and credibility;

- b) to place the necessary importance on the protection of creditors and to ensure that clubs settle their liabilities with employees, social/tax authorities and other clubs punctually;
- c) to introduce more discipline and rationality in club football finances;
- d) to encourage clubs to operate on the basis of their own revenues;
- e) to encourage responsible spending for the long-term benefit of football;
- f) to protect the long-term viability and sustainability of Sammarinese club football.

Article 3 – Definition of terms

¹ For the purpose of these regulations, the following definitions apply:

Administration procedures	A voluntary or mandatory process that may be used as an alternative to the liquidation of an entity, often known as going into administration. The day-to-day management of the activities of an entity in administration may be operated by the administrator on behalf of the creditors.
Agent/intermediary	A natural or legal person who, for a fee or free of charge, represents players and/or clubs in negotiations with a view to concluding an employment contract or represents clubs in negotiations with a view to concluding a transfer agreement.
Agreed-upon procedures	In an engagement to perform agreed-upon procedures, the Auditing Commission or an auditor is engaged to carry out those procedures of an audit nature to which the Auditing Commission or the auditor and the entity and any appropriate third parties have agreed and to report on factual findings. The recipients of the report must form their own conclusions from the report by the Auditing Commission or the auditor. The report is restricted to those parties that have agreed to the procedures to be performed since others, unaware of the reasons for the procedures, may misinterpret the results.
Associate	An entity, including an unincorporated entity such as a partnership, which is neither a subsidiary nor an interest in a joint venture and over which the investor has significant influence.
Break-even information	Financial information that must be calculated and reconciled to the financial statements and underlying accounting records in respect of each relevant reporting period, to be submitted by a club to assess its compliance with the break-even requirement.
CL/FFP IT solution	IT system developed by UEFA for the purpose of gathering information from the license applicants/licensees and for sharing information with licensors concerning their affiliated clubs, within the scope of the implementation, assessment and enforcement

	of these regulations.
Club licensing criteria	Requirements, divided into five categories (sporting, infrastructure, personnel and administrative, legal and financial), to be fulfilled by a licence applicant for it to be granted the UEFA licence by FSGC.
Club Licensing Quality Standard	Document that defines the minimum requirements with which licensors must comply to operate the club licensing system.
Club monitoring requirements	Requirements to be fulfilled by a licensee that has qualified for a UEFA club competition, with the exception of the UEFA Women's Champions League.
Control	The power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. Control may be gained by share ownership, statutes or agreement.
Costs of acquiring a player's registration	Amounts paid and/or payable for the acquisition of a player's registration, excluding any internal development or other costs. They include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transfer fee and realised conditional transfer amounts, including training compensation and solidarity contributions paid and/or payable to another football club and/or a third party to transfer-in the player's registration; • agents/intermediaries fees; and • other direct costs of acquiring the player's registration, e.g. transfer fee levy.
Deadlines for submission of the application to the licensor	The dates by which the licensor requires licence applicants to have submitted all relevant information for their applications for the UEFA licence. These dates are indicated within the core process
Event or condition of major economic importance	An event or condition that is considered material to the financial statements of the reporting entity/entities and would require a different (adverse) presentation of the results of the operations, financial position and net assets of the reporting entity/entities if it occurred during the preceding reporting period or interim period.
Future financial information	Information in respect of the financial performance and position of the club in the

	reporting periods ending in the years following commencement of the UEFA club competitions (reporting periods T+1 and later).
Government	Any form of government, including government agencies, government departments and similar bodies, whether local or national.
Group	A parent and all its subsidiaries. A parent is an entity that has one or more subsidiaries. A subsidiary is an entity, including an unincorporated entity such as a partnership that is controlled by another entity (known as the parent).
Image rights payments	Amounts due to employees (either directly or indirectly) as a result of contractual agreements with the licence applicant/licensee for the right to exploit their image or reputation in relation to football and/or non-football activities.
Interim period	A financial reporting period that is shorter than a full financial year. It does not necessarily have to be a six-month period.
International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)	Standards and Interpretations adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). They comprise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Financial Reporting Standards; • International Accounting Standards; and • Interpretations originated by the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) or the former Standing Interpretations Committee (SIC).
Joint control	The contractually agreed sharing of control over an economic activity, which exist only when the strategic financial and operating decisions relating to the activity require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control (the venturers).
Joint venture	A contractual arrangement whereby two or more parties undertake an economic activity that is subject to joint control.
Key management personnel	Persons having authority over and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of an entity, directly or indirectly, including but not limited to any

Licence	director (executive or otherwise) of the entity. Certificate granted by FSGC confirming fulfilment of all minimum criteria by the licence applicant as part of the admission procedure for entering UEFA club competitions.
Licence applicant	Legal entity fully and solely responsible for the football team participating in national and international club competitions which applies for the UEFA licence.
Licensee	Licence applicant that has been granted the UEFA licence by FSGC.
Licence season	UEFA season for which a licence applicant has applied for/been granted a licence. It starts the day following the deadline for submission of the list of licensing decisions by the licensor to UEFA and lasts until the same deadline the following year.
Licensor	Body that operates the club licensing system, grants UEFA licences. For the Republic of San Marino this entity is the FSGC (Federazione Sammarinese Giuoco Calcio).
List of licensing decisions	List submitted by the licensor to UEFA containing, among other things, information about the licence applicants that have undergone the licensing process and been granted or refused a UEFA licence by the national club licensing decision-making bodies in the format established and communicated by the UEFA administration.
Materiality	Omissions or misstatements of items or information are material if they could individually or collectively influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of the information submitted by the club. Materiality depends on the size and nature of the omission or misstatement judged in the surrounding circumstances or context. The size or nature of the item or information, or a combination of both, could be the determining factor.
Minimum criteria	Criteria to be fulfilled by a licence applicant in order to be granted the UEFA licence.
National accounting practice	The accounting and reporting practices and disclosures required of entities in the Republic of San Marino.
Monitoring documentation	Financial information (including break-even information, overdue payables information

and club information) and management representation which is communicated by the licensee via the CL/FFP IT solution.

Net debt

The aggregate of the following balances:

- Net borrowings (i.e. the net of bank overdrafts, bank and other loans, accounts payable to group entities and other related parties less cash and cash equivalents);
- net player transfers balance (i.e. the net of accounts receivable from players' transfers and accounts payable from players' transfer;
- accounts payable to social/tax authorities (non-current).

Parties involved

Any person or entity involved in the UEFA club licensing system or monitoring process, including UEFA, the licensor, the licence applicant/licensee and any individual involved on their behalf.

Party

A person or a legal entity

Protection from creditors

Procedures pursuant to laws or regulations whose objectives are to protect an entity from creditors, rescue insolvent entities and allow them to carry on running their business as a going concern. This process encompasses administration procedures and other insolvency proceedings (that might result in a compromise with creditors, bankruptcy or liquidation).

Reporting entity/entities	A registered member and/or football company or group of entities or some other combination of entities which is included in the reporting perimeter and which must provide the licensor with information for both club licensing and club monitoring purposes.
Reporting period	A financial reporting period ending on a statutory closing date, whether this is a year or not.
Significant change	An event that is considered material to the documentation previously submitted to the licensor and that would require a different presentation if it occurred prior to submission of the documentation.
Significant influence	Ability to influence but not control financial and operating policy decision-making. Significant influence may be gained by share ownership, statute or agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, a party or in aggregate parties with the same ultimate controlling party (excluding UEFA, a UEFA member association and an affiliated league) is deemed to have significant influence if it provides within a reporting period an amount equivalent to 30% or more of the licensee's total revenue
Stadium	The venue for a competition match including, but not limited to, all surrounding properties and facilities (for example offices, hospitality areas, press centre and accreditation centre).
Statutory closing date	The annual accounting reference date of a reporting entity.
Supplementary information	<p>Financial information to be submitted to the licensor in addition to the financial statements if the minimum requirements for disclosure and accounting are not met.</p> <p>The supplementary information must be prepared on a basis of accounting, and accounting policies, consistent with the financial statements. Financial information must be extracted from sources consistent with those used for the preparation of the annual financial statements. Where appropriate, disclosures in the supplementary information must agree with, or be reconciled</p>

to, the relevant disclosures in the financial statements.

Training facilities

The venue(s) at which a club's registered players undertake football training and/or youth development activities on a regular basis.

² In these regulations, the use of the masculine form refers equally to the feminine.

Chapter 1: Licensor

Article 4 – Responsibilities

- 1 The licensor is the Federazione Sammarinese Giuoco Calcio (FSGC). It governs the club licensing system.
- 2 In particular the licensor must:
 - a) Has established appropriate licensing administration as defined in Article 5;
 - b) Has established two decision-making bodies as defined in Article 6 (National Club Licensing Bodies);
 - c) Has set up a catalogue of sanctions as defined in Article 7;
 - d) defines the core process as defined in Article 8;
 - e) assesses the documentation submitted by the licence applicants, considers whether this is appropriate and define the assessment procedures in accordance with Article 9 ;
 - f) ensures equal treatment of all licence applicants and guarantees them full confidentiality with regard to all information provided during the licensing process as defined in Article 10;
 - g) determine whether each criterion has been met and what further information, if any, is needed for a Licence to be granted.

Article 5 – The licensing administration

- 1 The licensor must appoint a licensing manager who is responsible for the licensing administration and, possibly, a deputy licensing manager.
- 2 The tasks of the licensing administration (LA) include:
 - a) preparing, implementing and further developing the FSGC club licensing system;
 - b) providing administrative support to the National Club Licensing Bodies (decision-making bodies);
 - c) assisting, advising and monitoring the licensees during the season;
 - d) informing UEFA of any event occurring after the licensing decision that constitutes a significant change to the information previously submitted to the licensor, including a change of legal form or legal group structure;
 - e) serving as the contact point for and sharing expertise with the licensing departments of other UEFA member associations and with UEFA itself.
- 3 At least one staff member or an external financial adviser must have a financial background and a diploma in accountancy/auditing and must be registered in the Professional Accountants Register, or must have several years' experience in the above matters (a "recognition of competence").

- 4 The Licensing Administration is made of the (National) Licensing Manager, which can be supported in his office by the Deputy Licensing Manager (if appointed). The Licensing Manager has the duty to organize and coordinate the entire club licensing process. In particular he supervises the activity of Licensing Management. The Licensing Administration is appointed by the FSGC Council.
- 5 Furthermore, the Licensing Administration is also made of a Panel of Experts, appointed by the licensor and whose main task is to assess, on the basis of the documentation and declarations presented by the licence applicants and the specific verifications required by the Licensing Manager/Deputy Licensing Manager, whether or not all non-financial criteria are met by the licence applicants. Moreover, these Experts provide technical assistance to the Licensing Manager, the Deputy Licensing Manager and the National Club Licensing Bodies (decision-making bodies). The members of the Panel of Experts cannot have any kind of relationship with the FSGC clubs.
- 6 To assess the financial criteria, the FSGC appoints its Auditing Commission. It is composed by a President and two other members, appointed by the FSGC Council for an **Olympic cycle (four year period)**. The appointed members must have relevant professional skills. At least one of them must be registered in the Chamber of the Professional Auditors in San Marino.
- 7 The Auditing Commission must audit the annual financial statements and issue a report to both the license applicant and the First Instance National Licensing Committee, also called in the following pages First Instance Body (FIB). This report must be signed at least by the member of the Commission who is also a member of in the Chamber of the Professional Auditors in San Marino.
- 8 In order to ensure full independence of the Auditing Commission and the Panel of Experts, their members are strictly bound to confidentiality and in no case they are allowed to have any kind of relationship with a club which is member of the FSGC.
- 9 Anyone involved in the Club Licensing & Financial Fair Play System for FSGC, has to guarantee a 60 working days advice in case of resignation from his/her role. During this period of time he/she has to pass all the informations he/she has to the one indicated by FSGC Consiglio Federale.

Article 6 – The decision-making bodies

- 1 The National Club Decision-making Bodies are the First Instance National Licensing Committee, also called in the following pages First Instance Body (FIB), and the Second Instance National Licensing Committee, also called in the following pages Appeals Body (AB), and they must be independent of each other.
- 2 The First Instance Body (FIB) decides on whether the UEFA Licence should be granted to an applicant on the basis of the documents provided by the submission deadline set by the licensor and on whether the UEFA Licence should be withdrawn.
- 3 The Appeals Body (AB) decides on appeals submitted in writing and makes a final decision on whether the UEFA Licence should be granted or withdrawn.

- 4 Appeals may only be lodged by:
- a) a licence applicant who received a refusal from the First Instance Body;
 - b) a licensee whose licence has been withdrawn by the First Instance Body; or
 - c) the licensor acting through the Licensing Manager.
- 5 The Appeals Body makes its decision based on the decision of the First Instance Body and all the evidence provided by the appellant with its written request for appeal and by the set deadline.
- 6 The decision of the Appeals Body is final and no appeal can be lodged with the Court of arbitration or any other civil or sporting court.
- 7 Members of the National Club Licensing Bodies (decision-making bodies) are appointed by the FSGC Council for an **Olympic Cycle (four year term)** and are selected among individuals having specific professional knowledge on the subjects described in these regulations. They must not have relations of any kind with the licence applicants. The National Club Licensing Bodies take their decisions by absolute majority vote.
- 8 The FIB is composed of five members, i.e. a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and three other members; it is convened by its Chairman and is rightfully constituted if all its members are present.
- The AB is composed of five members, i.e a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and three other members; it is convened by its Chairman and is rightfully constituted if three of its members, one being the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman, are present.
- 9 Members of the National Club Licensing Bodies must:
- a) act impartially in the discharge of their duties;
 - b) abstain if there is any doubt as to their independence from the licence applicant or if there is a conflict of interest. In this connection, the independence of a member may not be guaranteed if he or any member of his family (spouse, child, parent, sibling) is a member, shareholder, business partner, sponsor or consultant of the licence applicant. The foregoing list is illustrative and not exhaustive;
 - c) not act simultaneously as Licensing Manager;
 - d) not belong simultaneously to a judicial statutory body of the licensor;
 - e) not belong simultaneously to the executive body of the FSGC or its affiliated league;
 - f) not belong simultaneously to the management personnel of an affiliated club;
 - g) include at least one qualified lawyer registered in the Bar Association and one qualified financial expert that means considering the National law registered in the Professional Accountants Register.
- 10 Members of the Appeals Body must not belong simultaneously either to the administrative staff or to any statutory decision-making body or committee of the FSGC.
- 11 The quorum of the decision-making bodies must be at least three members. In case of a tie, the chairman has the casting vote.

12 The decision-making bodies must operate according to the following procedural rules:

a) Deadlines

All deadlines of the whole licensing process (as provided within Annex I) are defined in a separate timetable which is worked out by the LA and is communicated to the licence applicants together with the package of licensing documentation every year by the end of December at the latest.

b) Safeguarding fundamental procedural rights

Fundamental procedural rights are guaranteed to the parties, particularly the right to equal treatment (see Article 10) and the *right to be heard* (including, but not limited to, the right to speak, the right to have evidence produced and to participate in the production of evidence and the right to a reasoned decision).

c) Representation

All licence applicants can request to be present during FIB and AB meetings when their case is heard. A representative of the licence applicant must be a person authorized by the club.

d) The right to a hearing

All licence applicants have the right to an hearing before both FIB and AB

e) Time limit to appeal before the AB

An appeal before the AB may be lodged within 7 calendar days from the date of receipt by fax of the decision of the FIB.

The appeal request must be sent by registered letter with return receipt. The appellant can request a hearing before the AB by enclosing a written request to the appeal letter.

In no case can a license applicant make an appeal against the granting of the UEFA License to another license applicant.

f) Effects of appeal

The appeal will have no delaying effect

g) Type of evidence requested

New evidence may be provided before the AB by the appellant with its written request for appeal.

h) Burden of proof

The licence applicant has the burden of proof.

i) Decision

The decision must be in writing and must be supported by reasoning and communicated to the parties in writing. Italian is considered official language for all documents regarding FIB, AB and appeal procedure.

j) Content and form of pleading

The pleading must be in writing and must contain at least the grounds of appeal and the pleadings.

k) Deliberation / hearings

Deliberation is held in secret.

l) Cost of procedure / administrative fee / deposit

Any appellant (except the licensor) has to deposit a fee, whose amount is annually determined by the FSGC Council and then communicated to all concerned parties. This fee shall in principle not be given back; however, a part of this fee may be given back only if the UEFA License is finally granted by the AB. Until further notice the amount of the deposit fee is established in 750,00 Euro.

Article 7 – Catalogue of sanctions

- 1 The National Club Licensing Bodies (decision-making bodies) are the competent bodies that have to impose sanctions on the licence applicants/licensees for infringement of the requirements of these regulations.
- 2 For the non-respect of the club licensing criteria referred to in Article 14 paragraphs 2 and 3, the applicable and relevant sanctions will be chosen within the FSGC Catalogue of Sanctions, established by the FSGC Council each year, for the FSGC Club Licensing System.
- 3 Infringements of these regulations other than those mentioned in paragraph 2 above (such as, for example, the submission of falsified or deliberately incorrect data) will be punished, in accordance with the FSGC Disciplinary Regulations.

Article 8 – The core process

- 1 The licensor defines the core process for the verification of the club licensing criteria and for the control of the issuance of the UEFA Licence.
- 2 The core process starts on 31 December at the latest with the LA submitting the licensing documentation to the licence applicants and ends with the submission of the list of licensing decisions to the UEFA Administration by the deadline communicated by the latter (31 May in principle).
- 3 The core process is defined within Annex I.
- 4 The deadlines of all the process steps described within Annex I are clearly defined in the timetable issued and distributed to all parties involved in the FSGC club licensing system every year by 31 December at the latest. The deadline for the submission of the application forms and documents by the licence applicants to the licensor is 28 February.

Article 9 – Assessment procedures

The assessment procedures are defined by the licensor, except those used to verify compliance with the financial criteria for which specific assessment processes must be followed as set out in Annex II.

Article 10 – *Equal treatment and confidentiality*

- 1 The licensor ensures equal treatment of all licence applicants during the core process.
- 2 The licensor guarantees the licence applicants full confidentiality with regard to all information submitted during the licensing process. Anyone involved in the licensing process or appointed by the licensor must sign a confidentiality agreement before assuming their tasks.

Chapter 2: Licence Applicant and UEFA Licence

Article 11 – Definition of licence applicant and three-year rule

- 1 A licence applicant may only be a football club, i.e. a legal entity fully responsible for a football team participating in national and international club competitions which is a registered member of the FSGC (hereinafter: registered member).
- 2 For the purpose of participating in the UEFA club competitions only, the membership must have lasted – at the start of the licence season – for at least three consecutive years.
- 3 Any change to the legal form, legal group structure (including a merger with another entity or transfer of football activities to another entity) or identity (including headquarters, name or colours) of a licence applicant during this period to the detriment of the integrity of a competition or to facilitate the licence applicant's qualification for a competition on sporting merit or its receipt of a licence is deemed as an interruption of membership within the meaning of this provision. Exception on the "three consecutive years" period mentioned above can be granted only by UEFA to enter UEFA club competition.

Article 12 – General responsibilities of the licence applicant

- 1 The licence applicant must provide the licensor with:
 - a) all necessary information and/or relevant documents to fully demonstrate that the licensing obligations are fulfilled; and
 - b) any other document relevant for decision-making by the licensor.
- 2 This includes information on the reporting entity/entities in respect of which sporting, infrastructure, personnel and administrative, legal and financial information is required to be provided.
- 3 Any event occurring after the submission of the licensing documentation to the licensor representing a significant change to the information previously submitted must be promptly notified to the licensor (including a change of the licence applicant's legal form, legal group structure or identity).

Article 13 – UEFA Licence

- 1 The clubs which qualify for the UEFA club competitions on sporting merit must obtain the UEFA Licence issued by the FSGC according to these regulations.

The clubs willing to participate in the Sammarinese championship are highly recommended to obtain the UEFA Licence issued by the FSGC according to these regulations. The club that don't apply or doesn't obtain the UEFA Licence is allowed to take part in the Sammarinese championship but is not entitled to receive any contribution for the licencing process for the season following the not obtaining the licence.
- 2 The UEFA Licence expires without prior notice at the end of the season for which it was issued.

- 3 The UEFA Licence cannot be transferred.
- 4 The UEFA Licence may be withdrawn by the National Club Licensing Bodies (decision-making bodies) if:
 - a) any of the conditions for the issuing of the UEFA Licence are no longer satisfied (however, if a criterion that had motivated the granting of the UEFA Licence is no longer met during the licence season, the competent National Club Licensing Body will first require the licensee to intervene and take the necessary corrective measures, establishing a deadline for the fulfilment in accordance with FSGC Disciplinary Regulations; then, if the corrective measures are not successfully applied within the defined deadline, the UEFA Licence may be withdrawn); or
 - b) the licensee violates any of its obligations under these regulations.
- 5 As soon as a UEFA Licence withdrawal is envisaged, the FSGC must inform the UEFA Administration accordingly.

Chapter 3: CLUB Licensing Criteria

Article 14 – General

- 1 With the exception of those defined in paragraphs 2 and 3 below, the club licensing criteria defined in this section IV must be fulfilled by clubs in order for them to be granted the UEFA Licence to enter the UEFA club competitions and the Sammarinese championship, with the exception of the UEFA Women's Champions League
- 2 The non-fulfilment of the club licensing criteria defined in Articles 17 paragraph 2, 20, 21 , 21bis, 24, 33, 33bis, 39, 40 does not lead to the refusal of the UEFA Licence but to a sanction defined by the licensor according to the FSGC Catalogue of Sanctions for the FSGC Club Licensing System (see Article 7).
- 3 The non-fulfilment of the financial criterion defined in Article 48 does not lead to the refusal of the UEFA Licence but to a sanction defined by the licensor according to the FSGC Catalogue of Sanctions for the FSGC Club Licensing System, unless the licence applicant is in breach of any indicator defined in Article 48; in such a case the financial criterion defined in Article 48 must be fulfilled by clubs in order for them to be granted the UEFA Licence to enter the UEFA club competitions and the Sammarinese championship

Article 14bis – UEFA Women's Champions League

- 1 With the exception of those defined in paragraph 2 below, the criteria defined in Annex VII must be fulfilled by clubs in order for them to be granted a licence to enter UEFA Women's Champions League.
- 2 Non-Fulfilment of the criteria defined in items 2 comma b, 5, 6, 7, 16 and 17 of Annex VII does not lead to refusal of a licence but to a sanction defined by the licensor according to its catalogue of sanctions (see Article 7).

SPORTING CRITERIA

Article 15 – Youth development programme

- 1 The licence applicant must have a written youth development programme approved by the licensor. The licensor must verify the implementation of the approved youth development programme and evaluate its quality.
- 2 The programme must cover at least the following areas:
 - a) Objectives and youth development philosophy;
 - b) Organisation of youth sector (organisational chart, bodies involved, relation to licence applicant, youth teams etc.);
 - c) Personnel (technical, medical, administrative etc.) and minimum qualifications required;

- d) Infrastructure available for youth sector (training and match facilities, other);
 - e) Financial resources (available budget, contribution by licence applicant, players or local community etc.);
 - f) Football education programme for the different age groups (playing skills, technical, tactical and physical);
 - g) Education programmes (*Laws of the Game*; anti-doping; integrity; anti-racism)
 - h) Medical support for youth players (including maintaining medical records);
 - i) Review and feedback process to evaluate the results and the achievements of the set objectives;
 - j) Validity of the programme (at least three years but maximum seven).
- 3 The licence applicant must further ensure that:
- a) every youth player involved in its youth development programme has the possibility to follow mandatory school education in accordance with San Marino Legislation; and
 - b) no youth player involved in its youth development programme is prevented from continuing their non-football education.

Article 16 – Youth teams

- 1 The licence applicant must at least have two youth teams within its legal entity within the age range of 7 to 12, i.e. the Under-11 and Under-13 youth teams.
- 2 The FSGC must ensure the education and development of the youth players within the age range of 13 to 21.
- 3 These two provisions constitute an exception to the UEFA requirements. This exception has been granted by UEFA for an unlimited period of time.
- 4 The participation in Youth Academies or development projects among clubs has to be declared as part of the programme as for Article 17 above, but is not in substitution of the obligations of comma 1 of this article.

Article 17 – Medical care of players

- 1 The licence applicant must establish and apply a policy to ensure that all players eligible to play for its first squad undergo a yearly medical examination in accordance with the relevant provisions of the UEFA Medical regulations.
- 2 The licence applicant must establish and apply a policy to ensure that all players above the age of 12 undergo a yearly medical examination in accordance with the relevant provisions defined by its licensor in line with its domestic legislation.

Article 18 – Registration of players

All the licence applicant's players, including youth players above the age of 10, must be registered with the FSGC in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

Article 19 – Written contract with professional players

All licence applicants' professional players must have a written contract with the licence applicant in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

Article 20 – Refereeing matters and Laws of the Game,

- 1 The licence applicant must attend a session or an event on refereeing matters provided by the FSGC or with its collaboration during the year prior to the licence season.
- 2 As a minimum, the first squad captain or his replacement, and the first squad head coach or the assistant head coach must attend this session or event.

Article 21 – Racial equality and anti-discrimination practice

The licence applicant must establish and apply a policy to tackle racism and discrimination in football in line with UEFA's 10-point plan on racism as defined in the *UEFA Safety and Security Regulations*.

Article 21bis – Child Protection and Welfare

The licence applicant must establish and apply measures, in line with any relevant UEFA guidelines, to protect, safeguard and ensure the welfare of youth players and ensure they are in a safe environment when participating in activities organised by the licence applicant.

INFRASTRUCTURE CRITERIA

Article 22 – Stadium for UEFA club competitions

- 1 The licence applicant must have a stadium available for UEFA club competitions which must be based within the territory of the Republic of San Marino and approved by the FSGC.
- 2 Thanks to an exception granted by UEFA for an unlimited period of time, the FSGC puts the Stadium of Serravalle at the disposal of the licence applicant and the written agreement signed with the owner of the Stadium of Serravalle (i.e. the Sammarinese National Olympic Committee) for the use of the Stadium of Serravalle is concluded by the FSGC and not by the licence applicant. The licence applicant does not have to provide a written agreement with the owner of the Stadium of Serravalle.
- 3 The FSGC ensures that it has a written agreement in place with the owner of the Stadium of Serravalle; this written agreement must guarantee that the Stadium of Serravalle can be used for the licence applicant's UEFA home matches during the licence season.

- 4 The Stadium of Serravalle must fulfil the minimum requirements defined in the *UEFA Stadium Infrastructure Regulations* and be classified at least as UEFA category 2 stadium.

Article 23 – Training facilities – Availability

- 1 The licence applicant must have training facilities available throughout the year.
- 2 Thanks to an exception granted by UEFA for an unlimited period of time, the FSGC puts at least one of its Stadia at the disposal of the licence applicant for training. This because of the agreement with the owner of the Stadia (i.e. the Sammarinese National Olympic Committee) for the use is concluded by the FSGC and not by the licence applicant. The licence applicant does not have to provide a written agreement with the owner of the training facilities.
- 3 The FSGC ensures that it has a written agreement in place with the owner of the training facilities
- 4 FSGC guarantees that the training facilities can be used by all teams of the licence applicant during the licence season, taking into account its youth development programme.

Article 24 – Training facilities – Minimum infrastructure

As a minimum, the infrastructure of training facilities must fulfil the requirements defined by the licensor (if it is not the subject that takes care directly of the facilities), for example:

- a) Relevant indoor/outdoor facilities;
- b) The specificities of those facilities: at least one pitch with regular dimension for an international match
- c) Dressing room specificities: at least 4 different dressing room;
- d) The medical room and its minimum equipment: defibrillator and first aid kit;
- e) Floodlighting: at least category 2;
- f) Any other relevant requirement identified by FSGC.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CRITERIA

Article 25 – Club secretariat

The licence applicant must have appointed an adequate number of skilled secretarial staff according to its needs to run its daily business. It must have an office space in which to run its administration. It must ensure that its office is open to communicate with FSGC and the public and that it is equipped, as a minimum, with phone, fax, email facilities and a website.

Article 26 – General manager

The licence applicant must have appointed a general manager who is responsible for running its operative matters.

Article 27 – Finance officer

- 1 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified finance officer who is responsible for its financial matters.
- 2 The finance officer must hold as a minimum one of the following qualifications:
 - a) Diploma of certified public accountant;
 - b) Diploma of qualified auditor;
 - c) Finance Officer Diploma issued by the licensor or an organisation recognised by the licensor.

Article 28 – Media officer

- 1 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified media officer who is responsible for media matters.
- 2 The media officer must hold as a minimum one of the following qualifications:
 - a) Diploma in journalism;
 - b) Media officer diploma issued by the licensor or an organisation recognised by the licensor;
 - c) “Recognition of competence” issued by the licensor, based on practical experience of at least three years in such matters.

Article 29 – Medical doctor

- 1 The licence applicant must have appointed at least one doctor who is responsible for medical support during matches and training as well as for doping prevention.
- 2 The qualification of the medical doctor must be recognised by the Istituto Sicurezza Sociale and/or Ordine dei Medici della Repubblica di San Marino.
- 3 He must be duly registered with FSGC.

Article 30 – Physiotherapist

- 1 The licence applicant must have appointed at least one physiotherapist who is responsible for medical treatment and massages for the first squad during training and matches.
- 2 The qualification of the physiotherapist must be recognised by the Istituto Sicurezza Sociale.
- 3 He must be duly registered with FSGC.

Article 30bis – Youth Teams Medic

The licence applicant must have appointed at least one doctor or physiotherapist recognized as such by the appropriate national health authorities who is responsible for the medical care of the youth teams.

Article 31 – Security officer

- 1 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified security officer who is responsible for safety and security matters.
- 2 The security officer must hold as a minimum one of the following qualifications:
 - a) Certificate as policeman or security person in accordance with San Marino Legislation;
 - b) Safety and security diploma from a specific course run by the licensor or by a state-recognised organisation;

Article 32 – Stewards

The licence applicant must have engaged qualified stewards to ensure safety and security at home matches.

Article 33 – Supporter liaison officer

- 1 The licence applicant must have appointed a supporter liaison officer to act as the key contact point for supporters.
- 2 The supporter liaison officer will regularly meet and collaborate with the relevant club personnel on all related matters.

Article 33bis - Disability access officer

- 3 The licence applicant must have appointed a disability access officer to support the provision of inclusive, accessible facilities and services.
- 4 The disability access officer will regularly meet and collaborate with the relevant club personnel on all related matters.

Article 34 - Head coach of first squad

- 5 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified head coach who is responsible for football matters of the first squad.
- 6 The head coach must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications:
 - a) UEFA B coaching diploma;
 - b) Valid non-UEFA coaching diploma which is equivalent to the one required for the licence under a) above and recognised by UEFA as such;

Article 35 – Assistant coach of first squad

- 1 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified coach who assists the head coach in all football matters of the first squad.
- 2 The assistant coach of the first squad must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications:
 - a) UEFA C coaching diploma;
 - b) Valid foreign coaching diploma which is equivalent to the one required for the licence under a) above;

Article 36 – Head of youth development programme

- 1 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified head of the youth development programme who is responsible for running the daily business and the technical aspects of the youth sector.
- 2 The head of the youth development programme must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications:
 - a) UEFA C coaching diploma;
 - b) Valid foreign coaching diploma which is equivalent to the one required for the licence under a) above;
 - c) Valid UEFA Elite Youth A Licence as issued by the FSGC and recognized by UEFA;

Article 37 – Youth coaches

- 1 The licence applicant must have appointed for each mandatory youth team at least one qualified coach who is responsible for all football matters related to this team.
- 2 All the youth coaches must hold at least one of the following minimum coaching qualifications:
 - a) UEFA C coaching diploma;
 - b) Valid foreign coaching diploma which is equivalent to the one required for the licence under a) above;
 - c) Valid UEFA Elite Youth A Licence as issued by the FSGC and recognized by UEFA;

Article 38 – Common provisions applicable to UEFA coaching qualifications under the UEFA Coaching Convention

- 1 A holder of the required UEFA coaching licence within the meaning of Articles 34 to 37 is considered a coach who, in accordance with the UEFA implementation provisions of the *UEFA Coaching Convention*, has:
 - a) been issued a UEFA coaching licence by a UEFA member association; or

b) at least started the required UEFA coaching diploma course. Simple registration for the required diploma course is not sufficient to meet this criterion.

- 2 All qualified coaches and technical staff defined in articles 34 to 37 must be duly registered with FSGC.

Article 39 – Rights and duties

The rights and duties of the personnel defined in Articles 26 to 37 above must be defined in writing.

Article 40 – Duty of replacement during the season

- 1 If a function defined in Articles 26 to 37 becomes vacant during the licence season, the licensee must ensure that, within a period of a maximum of 60 days, the function is taken over by someone who holds the required qualification.
- 2 In the event that a function defined in Articles 26 to 37 becomes vacant due to illness or accident, the licensor may grant an extension to the 60-day period only if reasonably satisfied that the person concerned is still medically unfit to resume his duties.
- 3 The licensee must promptly notify the FSGC of any such replacement.

LEGAL CRITERIA

Article 41 – Declaration in respect of participation in UEFA club competitions

- 1 The licence applicant must submit a legally valid declaration confirming the following:
 - a) It recognises as legally binding the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, UEFA, the FSGC as well as the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne as provided in the relevant articles of the *UEFA Statutes*;
 - b) At national level it will play in competitions that are recognised and endorsed by the FSGC;
 - c) At international level it will participate in competitions recognised by UEFA or FIFA (to avoid any doubt, this provision does not relate to friendly matches);
 - d) It will promptly inform the licensor about any significant change, event or condition of major economic importance;
 - e) It will abide by and observe the *FSGC Club Licensing Regulations*;
 - f) it will abide by observe the *UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations*;
 - g) Its reporting perimeter is defined in accordance with Article 43bis;
 - h) It will be accountable for any consequences of an entity included in the reporting perimeter not abiding by and observing items e) and f) above;
 - i) All submitted documents are complete and correct;
 - j) It authorises the Licensing Administration and National Club Licensing Bodies, the UEFA Administration, the Club Financial Control Panel and the UEFA Organs for the Administration of Justice to examine any relevant document and seek information from any relevant public authority or private body in accordance with Sammarinese legislation;
 - k) It acknowledges that UEFA reserves the right to execute compliance audits at national level in accordance with the *FSGC Club Licensing Regulations*.
- 2 The declaration must be executed by an authorised signatory no more than three months prior to the deadline for its submission to the licensor.

Article 42 – Minimum legal information

- 1 The licence applicant must submit a copy of its current, valid statutes.
- 2 The licence applicant must further submit an extract from a public register (e.g. trade register) or an extract from FSGC's club register containing the following minimum information:
 - a) Complete Legal Name;
 - b) Address of headquarters;
 - c) Legal form;
 - d) List of authorised signatories;
 - e) Type of required signature (e.g. individual, collective).

Article 43 – Legal group structure and ultimate controlling party

- 1 The licence applicant must provide the licensor with information on its legal group structure as at 31 December prior to the deadline for the submission of the application to the licensor. It must be presented in a chart and duly approved by management. The licensor must be informed of any changes there may have been to the legal group structure during the period between 31 December prior to the deadline and the submission of the chart to the licensor.
- 2 This document must clearly identify and include information on:
 - a) the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member of FSGC;
 - b) any subsidiary of the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member of FSGC;
 - c) any associate entity of the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member of FSGC;
 - d) any direct or indirect controlling entity of the licence applicant, up to and including the ultimate controlling party.
- e) Any party that has 10% or greater direct or indirect ownership of the licence applicant, or 10% or greater voting rights;
- f) Any party with a significant influence over the license applicant;
- g) Any other football club, in respect of which any of the parties identified in (a) to (f) or any of their key management personnel have any ownership interest, voting rights, and/or any involvement or influence whatsoever in relation to the governance of its financial and operating policies.

The reporting perimeter as defined in Article [43bis](#) must also be clearly identified in the document.

- 3 If deemed relevant the licensor may request the licence applicant/licensee to provide additional information other than that listed above (e.g. information about any subsidiaries and/or associates of the ultimate controlling entity and/or direct controlling entity)
- 4 The following information must be provided in relation to all entities included in the legal group structure:
 - a) Name of legal entity;
 - b) Type of legal entity;
 - c) Main activity of legal entity;
 - d) Percentage of ownership interest (and, if different, percentage of voting power held).

For any subsidiary of the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member of FSGC, the following information must also be provided:

- e) Share capital;
- f) Total assets;
- g) Total revenues;
- h) Total equity.

FINANCIAL CRITERIA

Article 43bis – Reporting entity/entities and reporting perimeter

- 1 The licence applicant determines and provide to the licensor the reporting perimeter, i.e. the entity or combination of entities in respect of which financial information (e.g. single entity, consolidated or combined financial statements) has to be provided in accordance with Annex IV B and assessed in accordance with Annex VI.
- 2 The reporting perimeter must include:
 - a) the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member of FSGC;
 - b) any subsidiary of the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member of FSGC;
 - c) any other entity included in the legal group structure which generates revenues and/or performs services and/or incurs costs in respect of the football activities defined in paragraph 3 c) to k) below;
 - d) any entity, irrespective of whether it is included in the legal group structure, which generates revenues and/or performs services and/or incurs costs in respect of football activities as defined in paragraph 3 a) and b) below.
- 3 Football activities include:
 - a) employing/engaging personnel (as defined in Article 46) including payment of all forms of consideration to employees arising from contractual or legal obligations;
 - b) acquiring/selling players' registration (including loans);
 - c) ticketing;
 - d) sponsorship and advertising;
 - e) broadcasting;
 - f) merchandising and hospitality;
 - g) club operations (e.g. administration, matchday activities, travel, scouting, etc.);
 - h) financing (including financing secured or pledged against the assets of the licence applicant);
 - i) use and management of stadium and training facilities;
 - j) Women's football
 - k) youth sector.
- 4 An entity may be excluded from the reporting perimeter only if:
 - a) its activities are entirely unrelated to the football activities defined in paragraph 3 above and/or the locations, assets or brand of the football club; or
 - b) it is immaterial compared with all the entities that form the reporting perimeter and it does not perform any of the football activities defined in paragraph 3 a) and b) above; or
 - c) the football activities it performs are already entirely reflected in the financial statements of one of the entities included in the reporting perimeter.

- 5 The licence applicant must submit a declaration by an authorised signatory which confirms:
- a) That all revenues and costs related to each of the football activities indicated in paragraph 3 have been included in the reporting perimeter and provide a detailed explanation should this not be the case; and
 - b) Whether any entity included in the legal group structure has been excluded from the reporting perimeter, justifying any such exclusion with reference to paragraph 4.

Article 44 – Annual financial statements

- 1 Annual financial statements in respect of the latest statutory closing date (31 December) prior to the deadline for submission of the list of licensing decisions to UEFA (31 May in principle) must be prepared in accordance with the Law 23rd February 2006 n. 47 (Legge sulle società) and following amendments, as well as with all relevant administrative rules defined by the FSGC Council as an application of the law, and submitted to the licensor.
- 2 Thanks to an exception that has been granted by UEFA for an unlimited period of time, the annual financial statements must not be audited by an independent auditor. Instead, the annual financial statements must be assessed by the Auditing Commission as defined within Annex II.
- 3 The annual financial statements must consist of:
- a) a balance sheet;
 - b) a profit and loss account;
 - c) a cash flow statement;
 - d) notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes; and
 - e) a financial review by management.
- 4 The annual financial statements must meet the minimum disclosure requirements as set out in Annex III and the accounting principles as set out in Annex VII. Comparative figures in respect of the prior statutory closing date must be provided.
- 5 If the minimum requirements for the content and accounting as set out in paragraph 4 above are not met in the annual financial statements, then the licence applicant must prepare supplementary information in order to meet the minimum information requirements that must be assessed by the Auditing Commission as defined in Annex V.

Article 44bis – Publication of Financial Information

The licence applicant must publish on its website or on the website of its licensor by the date (which cannot be later than the date of submission of the list of licensing decision to the UEFA administration – in principle 31 May) and in the form communicated by the licensor:

- a) The total amount paid in the latest reporting period to or for the benefit of agents/intermediaries; and
- b) The last audited annual financial information assessed by the licensor.

Article 45 – No overdue payables towards football clubs

- 1 The licence applicant must prove that as at 31 March preceding the licence season it has no overdue payables (as defined in Annex V) towards other football clubs as a result of transfers undertaken prior to the previous 31 December.
- 2 Payables are those amounts due to football clubs as a result of:
 - a) transfer activities, including any amount due upon fulfilment of certain conditions;
 - b) training compensation and solidarity contributions as defined in the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*;
 - c) any joint and several liability decided by a competent authority for the termination of a contract by a player.
- 3 The licence applicant must prepare and submit to the licensor a transfers table. It must be prepared even if there have been no transfers/loans during the relevant period.
- 4 The licence applicant must disclose:
 - a) all new player registration (including loans) in the 12 month period up to 31 December, irrespective of whether there is an amount outstanding to be paid as at 31 December.
 - b) all transfers for which an amount is outstanding to be paid as at 31 December, irrespective of whether they were undertaken in the 12 month period up to 31 december or before; and
 - c) all transfers subject to a claim pending before the competent authority under national law or proceedings pending before a national or international football authority or relevant arbitration tribunal.
- 5 The transfers table must contain a separate entry in respect of each player transfer (including loans), where the following information must be given as a minimum:
 - a) Player (identification by name and date of birth);
 - b) Date of the transfer/loan agreement;
 - c) Name of the football club that formerly held the registration;
 - d) Transfer (or loan) fee paid and/or payable (including training compensation and solidarity contribution) even if payment has not been requested by the creditor;
 - e) Other direct costs of acquiring the registration paid and/or payable;
 - f) Amounts settled and payment dates;
 - g) Balance payable as at 31 December in respect of each player transfer including the due date for each unpaid element;

- h) Balance payable as at 31 March (rolled forward from 31 December) including the due date for each unpaid element, together with explanatory comment;
 - i) Conditional amounts (contingent liabilities) not yet recognised in the balance sheet as at 31 December; and
 - j) Amounts subject to any claim/proceedings pending as at 31 March.
- 6 The licence applicant must reconcile the total liability as per the transfers table to the figure in the financial statements balance sheet for 'Accounts payable relating to player transfers'. The licence applicant is required to report in this table all payables even if payment has not been requested by the creditor.
- 7 The transfers table must be approved by management and this must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature on behalf of the executive body of the licence applicant.

Article 46 – No overdue payables in respect of employees

- 1 The licence applicant must prove that as at 31 March preceding the licence season it has no overdue payables (as defined in Annex V) in respect of its employees as a result of contractual or legal obligations that arose prior to the previous 31 December.
- 2 Payables are all forms of consideration due in respect of employees as a result of contractual or legal obligations including wages, salaries, image rights payments, bonuses and other benefits. Amounts payable to people who, for various reasons, are no longer employed by the applicant fall within the scope of this criterion and must be settled within the period stipulated in the contract and/or defined by law, regardless of how such payables are accounted for in the financial statements.
- 3 The term “employees” includes the following persons:
- a) All professional players according to the applicable *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*; and
 - b) The administrative, technical, medical and security staff specified in Articles 26 to 31 and 33 to 37.
- 4 The licence applicant must prepare and submit to the licensor an employees table showing:
- a) all employees who were employed at any time during the year up to the 31 December; i.e. not just those who remain at 31 December.
 - b) All employees in respect of whom there is an amount outstanding to be paid as at 31 December, irrespective of whether they were employed during the year up to 31 December; and
 - c) All employees in respect of whom there is a claim pending before the competent authority under national law or proceedings pending before a national or international football authority or relevant arbitration tribunal.
- 5 The following information must be given, as a minimum, in respect of each employee:
- a) Name of the employee;
 - b) Position/function of the employee;

- c) Start date;
- d) End date (if applicable);
- e) The balance payable as at 31 December, including the due date for each unpaid element;
- f) Any payable as at 31 March (rolled forward from 31 December), including the due date for each unpaid element, together with explanatory comment; and
- g) Amounts subject to any claim/proceedings pending as at 31 March.

6 The licence applicant must reconcile the total liability as per the employees table to the figure in the financial statements balance sheet for 'Accounts payable towards employees' or to the underlying accounting records.

7 The employees table must be approved by management and this must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature on behalf of the executive body of the licence applicant.

Article 46bis – No overdue payables towards social/tax authorities

1 The licence applicant must prove that as at 31 March preceding the licence season it has no overdue payables (as defined in Annex V) towards social tax/authorities as a result of a contractual or legal obligations in respect of its employees that arose prior to the previous 31 December.

2 The licence applicant must submit to the Auditing Commission and/or the licensor a social/tax table showing:

- a) the amount payable (if any) to the competent social/tax authorities as at 31 December of the year preceding the licence season;
- b) any claim/proceedings pending.

3 The following information must be given, as a minimum, in respect of each payable towards social/tax authorities, together with explanatory comment:

- a) Name of the creditor;
- b) Any payable as at 31 December, including the due date for each unpaid element;
- c) Any payable as at 31 March (rolled forward from 31 December), including the due date for each unpaid element, together with explanatory comment and supporting evidence; and
- d) Amounts subject to any claim/proceedings pending as at 31 March.

4 The licence applicant must reconcile the total liability as per the social/tax table to the figure in the financial statements balance sheet for 'Accounts payable to social/tax authorities' or to the underlying accounting records.

5 The social/tax table must be approved by management and this must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature on behalf of the executive body of the licence applicant.

Article 47 – Written representations prior to the licensing decision

- 1 Within seven days prior to the start of the period in which the licensing decision is to be made by the First Instance Body (FIB), the licence applicant must make written representations to the licensor.
- 2 The licence applicant must confirm the following:
 - a) That all documents submitted to the licensor are complete and correct;
 - b) Whether or not any significant change has occurred in relation to any of the club licensing criteria;
 - c) Whether or not any events or conditions of major economic importance have occurred that may have an adverse impact on the licence applicant's financial position since the balance sheet date of the preceding audited annual financial statements or reviewed interim financial statements (if applicable). If any events or conditions of major economic importance have occurred, the management representations letter must include a description of the nature of the event or condition and an estimate of its financial effect, or a statement that such an estimate cannot be made;
 - d) Whether or not the licence applicant (or the registered member of the UEFA member association which has a contractual relationship with the licence applicant within the meaning of Article 12) or any parent company of the licence applicant included in the reporting perimeter is seeking or has received protection from its creditors pursuant to laws or regulations within the 12 months preceding the licence season.
- 3 Approval by management must be evidenced by way of a signature on behalf of the executive body of the licence applicant.

Article 48 – Future financial information

- 1 The licence applicant must prepare and submit future financial information which is based on assumptions about events that may occur in the future and possible actions by the management of the reporting entity.
- 2 If a licence applicant exhibits any of the conditions described by indicator 1 or 2, it is considered in breach of the indicator:
 - a) Indicator 1: *Going concern*
The auditor's report in respect of the annual financial statements submitted in accordance with Article 44 includes, regarding the ongoing concern, either a key audit matter or a qualified opinion/conclusion-
 - b) Indicator 2: *Negative equity*
The annual financial statements (including, where required, the supplementary information) submitted in accordance with Article 44 disclose a net liabilities position (negative equity) that has deteriorated relative to the comparative figure contained in the previous year's annual financial statements.

In case any indicator defined above is breached, the future financial information submitted by the licence applicant must demonstrate to the licensor the licence applicant's ability to continue as a going concern until the end of the licence season.

- 3 Future financial information must cover the period commencing immediately after the later of the statutory closing date of the annual financial statements and it must cover the entire licence season.
- 4 Future financial information must be prepared, as a minimum, on a three-month basis, i.e. in six three-month periods (i.e. from 1 January to 31 March preceding the licence season, 01 April preceding the licence season to 30 June of the licence season, 01 July to 30 September of the licence season, 01 October to 31 December of the licence season, 01 January to 31 March of the licence season and 01 April of the licence season to 30 June following the licence season).
- 5 The future financial information must be based on assumptions that are not unreasonable.
- 6 Future financial information consists of:
 - a) a budgeted profit and loss account, with comparative figures for the immediately preceding financial year;
 - b) a budgeted cash flow, with comparative figures for the immediately preceding financial year;
 - c) explanatory notes, including a brief description of each of the significant assumptions (with reference to the relevant aspects of historic financial and other information) that have been used to prepare the budgeted profit and loss account and cash flow statement, as well as of the key risks that may affect the future financial results.
- 7 Future financial information must be prepared on a consistent basis with the audited annual financial statements and follow the same accounting policies as those applied for the preparation of the annual financial statements, except for accounting policy changes made after the date of the most recent annual financial statements that are to be reflected in the next annual financial statements – in which case details must be disclosed.
- 8 Future financial information must meet the minimum disclosure requirements as set out in Annex VI and the accounting principles as set out in Annex VII. Additional line items or notes must be included if they provide clarification or if their omission would make the future financial information misleading.
- 9 Future financial information with the assumptions upon which they are based must be approved by management and this must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature on behalf of the executive body of the reporting entity.

Part III. Final provisions

Article 49 – Authoritative text and language of correspondence

- 1 If there is any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English and Italian versions of these regulations, the English version prevails.
- 2 All correspondence between UEFA and FSGC and/or the licensee must be in one of the three UEFA official languages (English, French and German) and UEFA may ask FSGC and/or licensee for a certified translation of documents at their expense.

Article 50 – Annexes

All annexes to the present regulations form an integral part thereof.

Article 51 – UEFA Compliance audits

- 1 UEFA and/or its nominated bodies/agencies reserve the right to, at any time, conduct compliance audits of FSGC and, in the presence of the latter, of the licence applicants/licensees.
- 2 Compliance audits aim to ensure that FSGC as well as the licence applicants/licensees have fulfilled their obligations and that the UEFA licences were correctly awarded at the time of the final decision of FSGC.
- 3 For the purpose of the compliance audits by UEFA, in the event of any discrepancy in the interpretation of these regulations between the English version and the Italian version, the English version is authoritative.

Article 52 – Disciplinary procedures

- 1 Any breach of these regulations may be dealt with by FSGC Consiglio Federale in accordance with the FSGC Statutes and Administrative regulations if not already foreseen in the field of action of First Instance Body (FIB) and Appeals Body (AB).

Article 53 – Implementing provisions

The Licensing Administration will take the decisions and adopt, in the form of directives, circular letters and any other relevant documents, the detailed provisions necessary for implementing these regulations.

Article 54 – Adoption, abrogation and entry into force

- 1 These regulations were adopted by the FSGC Council on October 219^h 2020
- 2 These regulations replace the *FSGC Club Licensing Regulations (Edition 2018)*.
- 3 These regulations cannot be amended during the licensing process, unless duly approved by UEFA.

⁴ These regulations come into force immediately after their adoption by the FSGC Council.

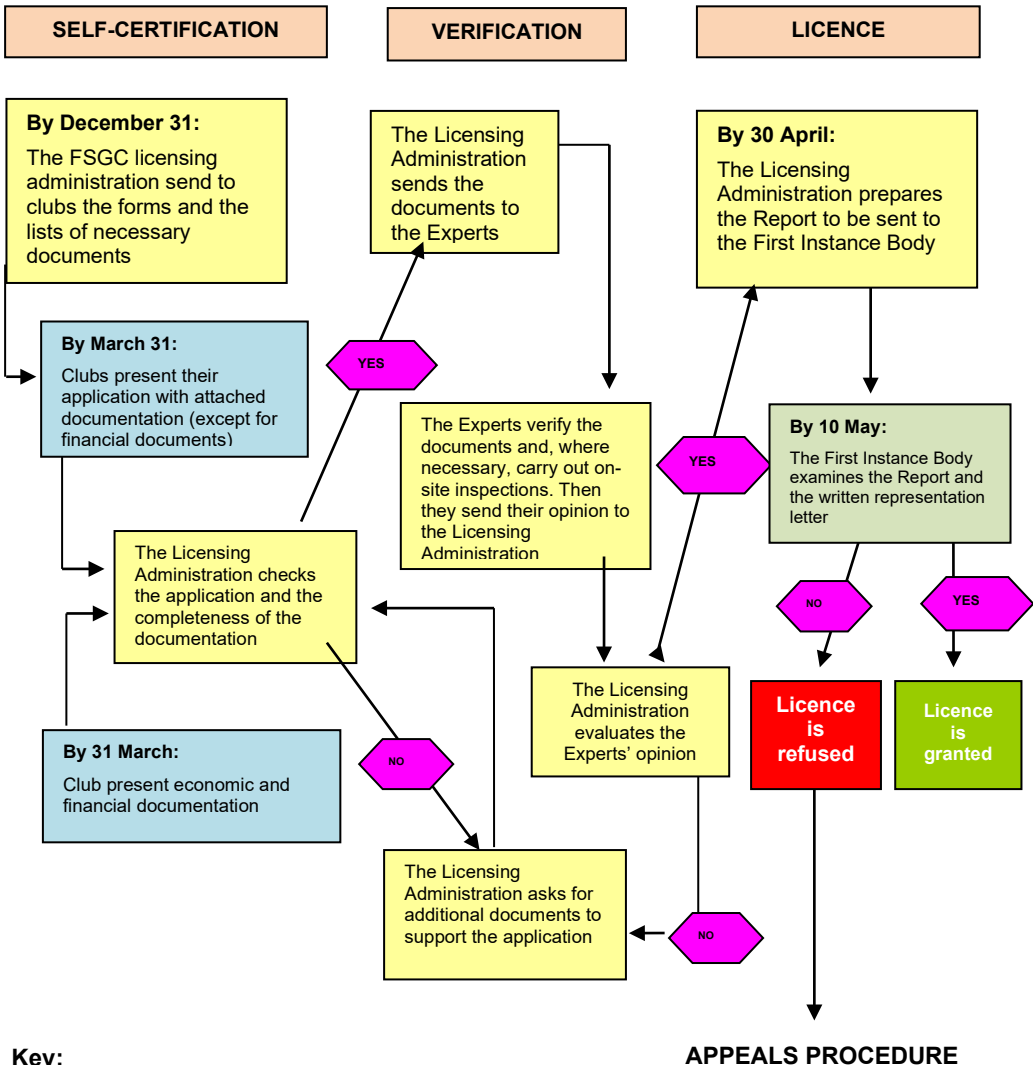
For the FSGC:

Marco Tura
President

Luigi Zafferani
General Secretary

Annex I: Core process

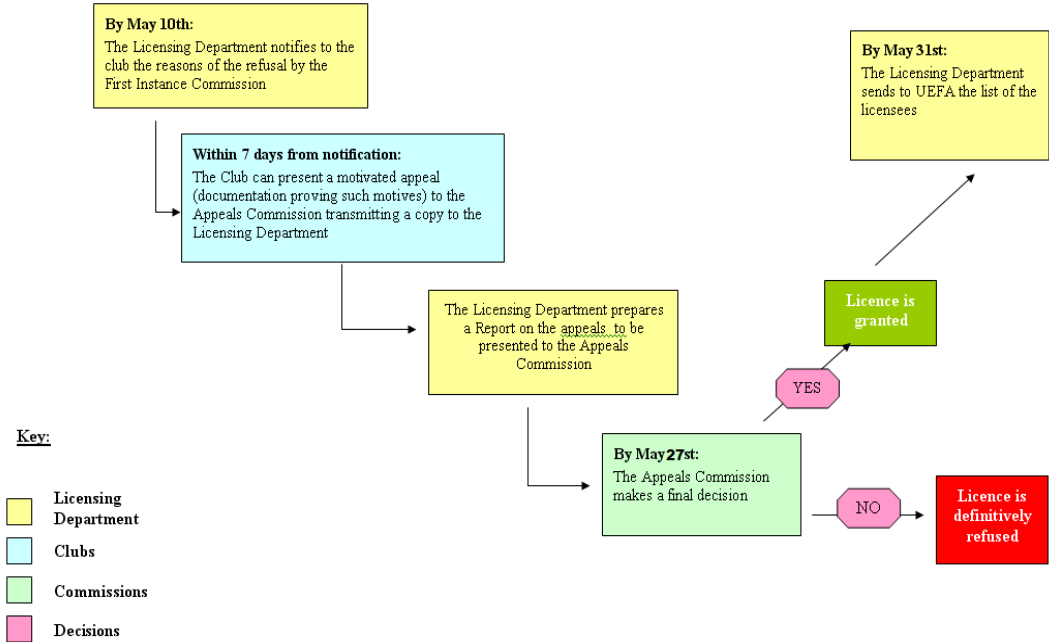
The charts below illustrate the core process.



Decisions

By submitting documents on March 31 all clubs automatically certified that they don't have any overdue payable.

Appeals Procedure:



ANNEX II: Determination of the Auditing Commission and its assessment procedures

A – Principle

To assess the financial criteria, the FSGC appoints its Auditing Commission. It is composed by a President and two other members, appointed by the FSGC Council for a three-year period. The appointed members must have relevant professional skills. At least one of them must be registered in the Chamber of the Professional Auditors in San Marino.

In order to ensure full independence of the Auditing Commission and the Panel of Experts, their members are strictly bound to confidentiality and in no case they are allowed to have any kind of relationship with a club which is member of the FSGC

B – Assessment procedures

2. The Auditing Commission must audit the annual financial statements and issue a report to both the license applicant and the First Instance Body. This report must be signed at least by the member of the Commission who is also a member of in the Chamber of the Professional Auditors in San Marino.

ANNEX III: Minimum disclosure requirements for the financial statements

A – Principle

- 5 Notwithstanding the requirements of national accounting practice, the financial criteria of these regulations require licence applicants to present a specific minimum level of financial information to the licensor as set out in Articles 44 and 48.
3. Each component of the financial statements must be identified clearly. The following information must be displayed prominently, and repeated where necessary within the financial statements, for a proper understanding of the information presented:

The name (and legal form), domicile and business address of the reporting entity/entities and any change in that information since the previous statutory closing date;

Whether the financial information covers the individual licence applicant or a group of entities or some other combination of entities, and a description of the structure and composition of any such group or combination;

The statutory closing date and the period covered by the financial information (for both current and comparative information); and

The presentation currency.

B – Balance sheet

The minimum disclosure requirements for the content in respect of balance sheet items are stated below.

assets

- i) cash and cash equivalents;
- ii) accounts receivable from player transfers (current and non-current);
- iii) accounts receivable from group entities and other related parties (current and non-current);
- iv) accounts receivable – other;
- v) tax assets (current and non-current)
- vi) inventories;
- vii) other assets (current and non-current)
- viii) tangible fixed assets;
- ix) intangible assets – players;
- x) intangible assets – other;
- xi) investments;

liabilities

- xii) bank overdrafts;
- xiii) bank and other loans (current and non-current)
- xiv) accounts payable relating to player transfers (current and non-current);
- xv) accounts payable to group entities and other related parties (current and non-current);
- xvi) accounts payable to employees (current and non-current);
- xvii) accounts payable – other (current and non-current);
- xviii) accruals and deferred income (current and non-current)
- xix) tax liabilities (current and non-current);
- xx) other current accounts payable
- xxi) provisions (short-term and long-term);
- xxii) other liabilities (current and non-current)

Net assets/liabilities

- xxiii) (xxiii) net assets/liabilities;

Equity

- xxiv) share/fund capital
- xxv) retained earnings
- xxvi) other reserves

Management may consider that line items (i) to (xxvi) are best presented on the face of the balance sheet or in the notes.

The net assets/liabilities figure, being the aggregate of total assets less total liabilities, is used to determine whether or not the licence applicant is in breach of indicator 2 described in Article 48.

C – Profit and loss account

1. The minimum disclosure requirements for the content in respect of profit and loss account are stated below.

Revenue

- i. gate receipts
- ii. sponsorship and advertising
- iii. broadcasting rights
- iv. commercial
- v. UEFA solidarity and prize money (distributed under the equality criteria decided by the FSGC Consiglio Federale)
- vi. other operating income
- vii. total revenue (sum of items i to vi)

Expenses

- viii. cost of sales/materials;
- ix. employee benefits expenses (players and other employees);
- x. depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets;
- xi. amortisation and impairment of other intangible assets (excluding player registrations);
- xii. other operating expenses;
- xiii. Total operating expenses (sum of items viii to xii)

Player transfer

- xiv. Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets – player registrations or costs of acquiring player registrations
- xv. Profit/loss on disposal of intangible assets – player registrations or income from the disposal of player registrations
- xvi. Total net result from player transfers (sum of items xiv and xv)

Other

- xvii. profit/loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets;
 - xviii. Finance income and expenses;
 - xix. non-operating income/expense;
 - xx. tax income/expense;
 - xxi. profit or loss after taxation (sum of items vii, xiii, xvi and xvii to xx).
- 2 Management may consider that line items (i) to (xxi) are best presented on the face of the profit and loss account or in the notes.

D – Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement must report cash flows for the financial period classified separately as stated below :

Cash flows from operating activities

Operating activities are the principal revenue-producing activities of the entity and other activities that are not investing or financing activities. Therefore, they generally result from the transactions and other events that enter into the determination of net profit or loss. The minimum disclosure requirements are stated below:

- i. Net cash inflow/outflow from operating activities

Cash flows from investing activities

Investing activities are the acquisition and disposal of long-term assets (including player registrations) and other investments not included in cash

equivalents. The entity must report separately major classes of gross cash receipts and gross cash payments arising from investing activities. The minimum disclosure requirements are stated below:

- registrations
 - ii. Cash inflow/outflows from acquisition/disposal of player
- assets
 - iii. Cash inflow/outflows from acquisition/disposal of tangible fixed
 - iv. Other cash inflow/outflows from investing activities

Cash flows from financing activities

Financing activities are activities that result in changes in the size and composition of the contributed equity share capital and borrowings of the entity. The entity must report separately major classes of gross cash receipts and gross cash payments arising from financing activities. The minimum disclosure requirements are stated below:

- party
 - v. Cash inflow/outflows from borrowings – shareholders and related
 - vi. Cash inflow/outflows from borrowings – financial institutions
- xxii. Cash inflow from increase of capital/equity
- xxiii. Cash outflows from dividends paid to owners/shareholders
- xxiv. Other cash inflow/outflows from financing activities

Other cash flows

Cash flows from interest and dividends received and paid must each be disclosed separately. Each must be disclosed in a consistent manner from period to period as either operating, investing or financing activities.

Cash flows arising from taxes on income must be disclosed separately and classified as cash flows from operating activities unless they can be appropriately and specifically identified as financing and investing activities.

The components of cash and cash equivalents must be disclosed and there must be presented a reconciliation of the amounts in the cash flow statement with the equivalent items reported in the balance sheet.

E – Notes to the financial statements

Notes to the annual financial statements must be presented in a systematic manner. Each item on the face of the balance sheet, profit and loss account and cash flow statement must be cross-referenced to any related information in the notes. The minimum requirements for disclosure in notes are as follows:

Accounting policies

The basis of preparation of the financial statements and a summary of the significant accounting policies used.

Tangible fixed assets

Each class of tangible fixed asset must be disclosed separately (e.g. property, stadium and equipment right-of-use assets)

The following information must be disclosed for each class of tangible fixed asset :

- the gross carrying amount and the accumulated depreciation (aggregated with accumulated impairment losses) at the beginning and end of the period; and
- a reconciliation of the carrying amount at the beginning and the end of the period, showing additions, disposals, increases or decreases during the period resulting from revaluations, impairment losses recognised in the profit and loss account during the period (if any), impairment losses reversed in the profit and loss account during the period (if any) and depreciation.

The depreciation methods and useful lives (or depreciation rates) used must be disclosed in the accounting policy notes.

Intangible assets

Each class of intangible asset must be disclosed separately (e.g. player registrations, goodwill, other intangible assets).

The following information must be disclosed for each class of intangible asset :

- the gross carrying amount and the accumulated amortisation (aggregated with accumulated impairment losses) at the beginning and end of the period; and
- a reconciliation of the carrying amount at the beginning and the end of the period, showing additions, disposals, decreases during the period resulting from impairment losses recognised in the profit and loss account during the period (if any) and amortisation.

For further information and guidance in relation to accounting requirements for player registrations, refer to Annex III.

Pledged assets and assets under reservation of title

The existence and amounts of restrictions on title, and property, stadium and equipment pledged as security for liabilities or guarantees, must be disclosed.

The existence and carrying amounts of intangible assets whose title is restricted and the carrying amount of intangible assets pledged as security for liabilities must be disclosed.

Investments

Investments must include investments in subsidiaries, jointly controlled entities and associates. In respect of investments in subsidiaries, jointly

controlled entities and associates, the following information must be disclosed as a minimum for each investment:

- name;
- country of incorporation or residence;
- type of business/operations of the entity;
- proportion of ownership interest;
- if different, proportion of voting power held; and
- description of the method used to account for the investments.

Bank overdrafts and loans

For each class of financial liability the following must be disclosed :

- information about the extent and nature of the financial instruments, including amounts and duration and any significant terms and conditions that may affect the amount, timing and certainty of future cash flows; and
- the accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition and the basis of measurement applied.

Provisions

Provisions must be disclosed in separate classes. In determining which provisions may be aggregated to form a class, it is necessary to consider whether the nature of the items is sufficiently similar to be combined in a statement of a single amount.

For each class of provision, the carrying amount at the beginning and end of the period, the amount utilised and any amount released, or credited, in the period must be disclosed.

Issued capital and reserves

Share capital, other reserves and retained earnings must be disclosed separately.

- Share/fund capital

In relation to share capital issued during the current year the following must be disclosed :

- number and type of shares issued;
- share premium (if applicable) arising on the shares issued;
- total amount raised as a result of the issuing of shares;
- reason for the issuing of new shares.

- Other reserves

Where items of property, stadium and equipment are stated at revalued amounts, the revaluation surplus, indicating the change for the period and any restrictions on the distribution of the balance to shareholders, must be disclosed.

- Retained earnings

The balance of retained earnings (i.e. accumulated profit or loss) at the beginning of the reporting period and at the balance sheet date, and the changes during the reporting period, must be disclosed.

Controlling party

When the reporting entity is controlled by another party, there must be disclosure of the related party relationship and the name of that party and, if different, that of the ultimate controlling party. This information must be disclosed irrespective of whether any transactions have taken place between the controlling parties and the reporting entity.

Related party transactions

If there have been transactions between related parties during the periods covered by the financial statements, the reporting entity must disclose the nature of the related party relationship, as well as information about those transactions and outstanding balances, including commitments, necessary for an understanding of the potential effect of the relationship on the financial statements. Items of a similar nature may be disclosed in aggregate except when separate disclosure is necessary for an understanding of the effects of related party transactions on the financial statements of the reporting entity.

As a minimum, disclosures must include for each related party:

the amount and the nature of the transactions;

the amount of outstanding balances, including commitments, and:

- their terms and conditions, including whether they are secured, and the nature of the consideration to be provided in settlement; and
- details of any guarantees given or received;

provisions for doubtful debts related to the amount of outstanding balances; and

the expense recognised during the period in respect of bad or doubtful debts due from related parties.

The disclosures required must be made separately for each of the following categories :

- the parent;
- entities with joint control or significant influence over the reporting entity;
- subsidiaries;
- associates;
- joint ventures in which the reporting entity is a venture;
- key management personnel of the entity or its parent; and
- other related parties.

Confirmation that related party transactions were made on terms equivalent to those that prevail in arm's length transactions must be made if such terms can be substantiated.

Contingent liabilities

Unless the possibility of any outflow in settlement is remote, the reporting entity must disclose for each class of contingent liability at the statutory closing date a brief description of the nature of the contingent liability and, where practicable:

an estimate of its financial effect;

an indication of the uncertainties relating to the amount or timing of any outflow; and

the possibility of any reimbursement.

Events after the balance sheet date

Material non-adjusting events after the balance sheet date must be disclosed (the nature of the event and an estimate of its financial effect, or a statement that such an estimate cannot be made). Examples of such events are:

- fixed-term borrowing approaching maturity without realistic prospects of renewal or repayment;
- substantial operating losses;
- discovery of material fraud or errors that show the financial statements are incorrect;
- management determining that it intends to liquidate the entity or to cease trading, or that it has no realistic alternative but to do so;
- player transactions where the amounts paid or received are significant;
- transactions relating to property – for example, in relation to the club's stadium.

Other disclosures

- Agent/Intermediaries fees

The total amount paid in the reporting period to or for the benefit of agents/intermediaries must be disclosed.

- Players' economic rights (or similar)

For any player for whom the economic rights or similar are not fully owned by the licence applicant, the name of the player and the percentage of economic rights or similar held by the licence applicant at the beginning of the period (or on acquisition of the registration) and at the end of the period must be disclosed. This provision applies just in case of professional players.

- Tax expense

The components of tax expense must be disclosed separately. That is, the aggregate amount included in the determination of net profit or loss for the reporting period in respect of current and/or deferred tax.

- Miscellaneous

Any additional information or disclosure that is not presented on the face of the balance sheet, profit and loss statement or cash flow

statement, but is relevant to an understanding of any of those statements and/or is required to meet the minimum financial information requirements, must be disclosed.

F – Player identification table

1. All licence applicants must prepare and submit to the licensor a player identification table.

2. The player identification table must be provided to the auditor, who must reconcile the aggregate figures in the player identification table to the relevant figures in the balance sheet and profit and loss account in the audited annual financial statements. However, the player identification table does not need to be disclosed within the annual financial statements.

3. The minimum information to be included in the player identification table in respect of each relevant player is as follows:

- a) Name and date of birth
- b) Start date of original player contract and end date of current contract;
- c) Costs of acquiring the player's registration;
- d) Accumulated amortisation brought forward and as at the end of the period;
- e) Expense/amortisation in the period;
- f) Impairment cost in the period;
- g) Disposals (cost and accumulated amortisation)
- h) Net book value (carrying amount);
- i) Profit/(loss) from disposal of player's registration; and:

j) Sell-on rights (or similar), i.e. description and (if possible) quantification of any sell-on rights to a football club that formerly held the player's registration, excluding training compensation and/or solidarity contributions.

4. Relevant players, about whom details are required in the table, are:

a) all players whose registration is held by the licence applicant at any time during the period and in respect of whom some direct acquisition cost has been incurred (at some point in time in the reporting period or prior periods); and

b) all players in respect of whom some income/profit (or loss) has been recognised (at some point in time in the reporting period).

5. For licence applicants who have restated player accounting figures to meet the accounting requirements of these regulations, these aggregate figures from the player identification table must agree with/be reconciled to the restated figures in the supplementary information.

G – Financial review by management

The annual financial statements must include a financial review or commentary by management (sometimes referred to as a directors' report) that describes and explains the main features of the reporting entity's financial performance and financial position and the principal risks and uncertainties it faces.

The annual financial statements must also include the names of persons who were members of the executive body (or board of directors) and of the supervisory bodies of the reporting entity at any time during the year.

ANNEX IV: Basis for the preparation of financial statements

A - Principles

1. The annual financial statements as defined in Article 44 must be based on the accounting standards required by Sammarinese legislation for incorporated companies, i.e. Law 23rd February 2006 n. 47 (Legge sulle società) and following amendments, regardless of the legal structure of the licence applicant.
2. Financial statements must be prepared on the assumption that the licence applicant is a going concern, meaning it will continue in operation for the foreseeable future. It is assumed that the licence applicant has neither the intention nor the necessity to go into liquidation, cease trading or seek protection from creditors pursuant to laws or regulations.
3. The Law 23rd February 2006 n. 47 (Legge sulle società) and following amendments, suitable as the basis for the preparation of financial statements, must contain certain underlying principles including:
 - a) fair presentation;
 - b) consistency of presentation;
 - c) accrual basis for accounting;
 - d) separate presentation of each material class of items;
 - e) no offsetting between assets and liabilities and between income and expenses unless permitted by national accounting practice.
4. Notwithstanding that each license applicant has to prepare audited annual financial statements under its own national accounting practice for incorporated companies, the International Financial Reporting Standards or the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities, these regulation include specific accounting requirements to be complied with as set out in Annex IV, B and F.
 5. The licence applicant must prepare supplementary information (to be submitted to the licensor) if the accounting requirements described in this annex are not met by the disclosures and accounting treatment in the audited annual financial statements. The supplementary information must include a restated balance sheet, profit and loss account and any associated notes to meet the requirements set out below. There must also be included a note (or notes) reconciling the results and financial position shown in the supplementary information document to those shown in the audited financial statements (that were prepared under the national accounting practice). The restated financial information must be assessed by the auditor by way of agreed-upon procedures.
6. The financial statements must be approved by management and this must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature on behalf of the executive body of the reporting entity.

B – Consolidation/combination requirements

1. If the licence applicant has control of any subsidiary, then consolidated financial statements must be prepared and submitted to the licensor as if the entities included in the reporting perimeter (as defined in Article 43) were a single company.
2. A subsidiary may be excluded from the reporting perimeter only if :
 - a) The subsidiary is immaterial compared with the overall group made by the licence applicant; or
 - b) The subsidiary's activity is clearly and exclusively not related to football.
3. If a subsidiary is excluded from the reporting perimeter, the management of the licence applicant must justify its decision to the licensor in detail.
4. If the licence applicant is controlled by a parent which has been included in the reporting perimeter, consolidated financial statements must be prepared and submitted to the licensor as if the entities included in the reporting perimeter were a single company.

C – Accounting requirements for the permanent transfer of a player's registration

1. In the Republic of San Marino, the licence applicants must expense the costs of acquiring a player's registration.
2. The minimum accounting requirements for the disposal of a player's registration an intangible asset are as follows:
 - a) The profit/(loss) on the disposal of a player's registration to another club to be recognised in the profit and loss account is the difference between the disposal proceeds and the residual carrying value of the player's registration in the balance sheet as at the date of the transfer.
 - b) Any profit in respect of a player for whom the licence applicant retains the registration must not be recognised in the profit and loss account. For the avoidance of doubt, any profit arising from the disposal of economic rights or similar of a player to any other party must be deferred, and a profit can only be recognised in the profit and loss account following the permanent transfer of a player's registration to another club.

ANNEX V: *Notion of ‘overdue payables’*

1. Payables are considered as overdue if they are not paid according to the **contractual or legal** terms.

Payables are not considered as overdue, within the meaning of these regulations, if the licence applicant/licensee (i.e. debtor club) is able to prove by 31 March (in respect of Articles **45, 46 and 46bis**) respectively that:

it has paid the relevant amount in full; or

it has concluded an agreement which has been accepted in writing by the creditor to extend the deadline for payment beyond the applicable deadline (note: the fact that a creditor may not have requested payment of an amount does not constitute an extension of the deadline); or

it has brought a legal claim which has been deemed admissible by the competent authority under national law or has opened proceedings with the national or international football authorities or relevant arbitration tribunal contesting liability in relation to the overdue payables; however, if the National Club Licensing decision-making bodies consider that such claim has been brought or such proceedings have been opened for the sole purpose of avoiding the applicable deadlines set out in these regulations (i.e. in order to buy time), the relevant amount will still be considered as an overdue payable; or

it has contested to the competent authority under national law, the national or international football authorities or the relevant arbitration tribunal, a claim which has been brought or proceedings which have been opened against it by a creditor in respect of overdue payables and is able to demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the relevant National Club Licensing decision-making bodies that it has established reasons for contesting the claim or proceedings which have been opened; however, if the National Club Licensing decision-making bodies consider the reasons for contesting the claim or proceedings which have been opened as manifestly unfounded the amount will still be considered as an overdue payable; or

it is able to demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the relevant decision-making bodies (licensor and/or UEFA Club Financial Control Body) that it has taken all reasonable measures to identify and pay the creditor club(s) in respect of training compensation and solidarity contributions (as defined in the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfers of Players).

ANNEX VI: Licensor's assessment procedures for the financial criteria and requirements

A. Principle

The licensor defines the assessment procedures, ensuring equal treatment of all clubs applying for a licence. It assesses the documentation submitted by the clubs, considers whether this is appropriate and determines to its reasonable satisfaction whether each criterion has been met and what further information, if any, is needed for each licence to be granted.

The assessment processes to check compliance with the financial criteria set out in Article 9 comprise specific assessment steps that must be followed by the licensor as set out below.

B. Assessment of the auditor's report on the annual and interim financial statements

In respect of the annual financial statements, the licensor must perform the following minimum assessment procedures:

Assess whether the reporting perimeter is appropriate for club licensing purposes.

Assess the submitted information (annual financial statements that may also include supplementary information) to form the basis for the licensing decision.

Read and consider the annual financial statements and the Auditing Commission's report thereon.

Address the consequences of any modifications to the Auditing Commission's report (compared to the normal form of unqualified report) and/or deficiencies compared to the minimum disclosure and accounting requirements according to paragraph 2 below.

Having assessed the reporting perimeter and read the Auditing Commission's report on the annual financial statements, the licensor must assess it them according to the items below:

If the reporting perimeter does not meet the requirements of Article 43bis, the licence must be refused.

If the Auditing Commission's report has an unqualified opinion, without any modification, this provides a satisfactory basis for granting the UEFA Licence.

If the Auditing Commission's report has a disclaimer of opinion or an adverse opinion, the UEFA Licence must be refused, unless a subsequent audit opinion without disclaimer of opinion or adverse opinion is provided (in relation to another set of financial statements for the same financial year that meet the minimum requirements) and the licensor is satisfied with the subsequent audit opinion.

If the Auditing Commission's report has, in respect of going concern, either an **a key audit** matter or a qualified 'except for' opinion, the UEFA Licence must be refused, unless either:

- a subsequent audit opinion without going concern **key audit matters** or qualification is provided, in relation to the same financial year; or
- additional documentary evidence demonstrating the licence applicant's ability to continue as a going concern until at least the end of the licence season has been provided to, and assessed by, the licensor to its satisfaction. The additional documentary evidence includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the information described in Article **48** (Future financial information).

If the Auditing Commission's report has, in respect of a matter other than going concern, either **a key audit** matter or a qualified 'except for' opinion, then the licensor must consider the implications of the modification for club licensing purposes. The UEFA Licence may be refused unless additional documentary evidence is provided and assessed to the satisfaction of the licensor. The additional evidence that may be requested by the licensor will be dependent on the reason for the modification to the Auditing Commission's report.

If the licence applicant provides supplementary information, the licensor must additionally assess the Auditing Commission's report on the agreed-upon procedures in respect of the supplementary information. The UEFA Licence may be refused if this includes reference to errors and/or exceptions found.

If the auditor's report makes a reference to any situation defined in Article **47** paragraph 2(d) the licence must be refused.

C. Assessment of overdue payables towards other clubs, employees and social/tax authorities

In respect of the overdue payables towards other clubs, employees and social/tax authorities the licensor has the Auditing Commission carry out the assessment procedures.

The licensor must review the Auditing Commission's report and, in particular, verify that the sample selected by the Auditing Commission is satisfactory, and it may carry out any additional assessment it believes necessary, i.e. extend the sample and/or request additional documentary evidence from the licence applicant.

The Auditing Commission must perform the following steps :

- Agree the total in the transfer payables table with the 'Accounts payable relating to player transfers' amount in the annual financial statements as at 31 December;
- Check the mathematical accuracy of the transfer payables table;

- Select a sample of player transfers/loans, compare the corresponding agreements with the information contained in the transfer payables table and highlight the selected transfers/loans;
- Select a sample of transfer payments, compare them with the information contained in the transfer payables table and highlight the selected payments;
- If, according to the transfer payables table, there is an amount due as at 31 March, that concerns a transfer that occurred before 31 December of the previous year, examine that by 31 March at the latest :
 - An agreement has been reached as per Annex IV (2 b); or
 - A dispute has arisen as per Annex IV (2 c or d).
- If applicable : obtain and examine documents, including agreements with the relevant football club(s) and/or correspondence with the competent body, in support of the immediately preceding • i) and/or ii).

The UEFA Licence must be refused if :

- A) the information in respect of payables towards other clubs is not submitted to the licensor within the defined deadline;
- B) the licence applicant submits in due time information that does not meet the minimum disclosure requirements.
- C) as at 31 March preceding the licence season the licence applicant has overdue payables (as defined in Annex IV) towards football clubs that refer to transfer activities that occurred prior to the previous 31 December.

D. Assessment of overdue payables towards employees and social/tax authorities

In respect of the overdue payables towards employees and social/tax authorities, the licensor has the Auditing Commission carry out the assessment procedures.

The licensor must review the Auditing Commission's report and, in particular, verify that the sample selected by the Auditing Commission is satisfactory, and it may carry out any additional assessment it believes necessary, i.e. extend the sample and/or request additional documentary evidence from the licence applicant.

The Auditing Commission must perform the following steps in respect of payables related to contractual and legal obligations towards employees :

- Obtain the list of employees prepared by management;
- Agree the total payable in the list of employees with the 'Accounts payable to employees' amount in the annual financial statements as at 31 December;
- Obtain and inspect a randomly selected sample of employee confirmation letters and compare the information to that contained in the list of employees;

- If there is an amount due as at 31 March that refers to payables in respect of contractual and legal obligations towards its employees that arose before the previous 31 December, examine that by 31 March at the latest :
 - An agreement has been reached as per Annex IV (2 b); or
 - A dispute has arisen as per Annex IV (2 c or d).
- Examine a selection of bank statements in support of payments;
- If applicable : examine documents, including agreements with the relevant employee(s) and/or correspondence with the competent body, in support of the representations of the immediately antepenultimate • i) and/or ii).

The Auditing Commission must perform the following steps in respect of payables to social/tax authorities in respect of contractual and legal obligations towards the licence applicant's employees :

- Agree the recorded balance of payroll taxes as at 31 December to the payroll records of the club;
- If there is an amount due as at 31 March that arose before the previous 31 December, examine that by 31 March at the latest :
 - a) an agreement has been reached as per Annex IV (2 b); or
 - b) a dispute has arisen as per Annex IV (2 c or d).
- If applicable : examine documents, including agreements with the tax/social authorities and/or correspondence with the competent body, in support of the immediately preceding • a) and/or b).

The licensor must assess the information submitted by the licence applicant, in particular the social/tax table and other corresponding supporting documents, as detailed below. If the assessment is carried out by an auditor similar steps must be performed by the auditor:

Obtain the social/tax table prepared by management.

Reconcile the total payable in the social/tax table to the 'Accounts payable to social/tax authorities' amount in the annual or interim financial statements as at 31 December.

Obtain corresponding supporting documents.

If, according to the licensor, there is an amount due as at 31 March that refers to payables towards social/tax authorities in respect of contractual and legal obligations towards employees that arose before the previous 31 December, examine that, by 31 March at the latest:

- an agreement has been reached as per Annex V (2 b); or
- a dispute/claim has arisen as per Annex V (2 c or d).

Examine all or a selection of bank statements in support of payments.

If applicable: examine documents, including agreements with the relevant social/tax authorities and/or correspondence with the competent body, in support of the representations under d(i) and/or d(ii) above.

The UEFA Licence must be refused if:

- A) the information in respect of payables towards employees and social/tax authorities is not submitted to the licensor within the defined deadline.
- B) the licence applicant submits in due time information that does not meet the minimum disclosure requirements.

as at 31 March preceding the licence season the licence applicant has overdue payables (as defined in Annex IV) towards its employees or social/tax authorities as a result of contractual and legal obligations towards its employees that arose prior to the previous 31 December.

E. Assessment of the written representation letter prior to the licensing decision

- a) In respect of the written representation letter, the licensor must read and consider the impact of any significant change that has occurred in relation to the club licensing criteria.
- b) In respect of the written representation letter, the licensor must read and consider the information in respect of any event or condition of major economic importance, in combination with the financial statements, future financial information and any additional documentary evidence provided by the license applicant.
- c) The licensor must assess the club's ability to continue as a going concern until at least the end of the license season. The UEFA License must be refused if, based on the financial information that the licensor has assessed, in the licensor's judgement, the license applicant may not be able to continue as a going concern until at least the end of the license season.
- d) If the licence applicant (or the registered member of the FSGC which has a contractual relationship with the licence applicant within the meaning of Article 12) or any parent company of the licence applicant included in the reporting perimeter is/was seeking protection or has received/is still receiving protection from its creditors pursuant to laws or regulations (including voluntary or mandated administration procedures) within the 12 months preceding the licence season then the licence must be refused. For the avoidance of doubt the licence must also be refused even if the concerned entity is no longer receiving protection from its creditors at the moment the licensing decision is taken.
- e) The licensor must check the total amount paid in the latest reporting period to or for the benefit of agents/intermediaries and the last audited annual financial information assessed by the licensor have been made publicly available either on the licence applicant's website or the licensor's website.

F. Assessment of the future financial information

The licensor determines whether or not an indicator defined in Article 48 has been breached. In case an indicator has been breached, the Auditing Commission carries out the assessment of future financial information.

If the licence applicant is in breach of any indicator defined in Article 48, the future financial information must be assessed by the Auditing Commission, which must perform the following steps :

- Check whether the future financial information is arithmetically accurate;
- Through discussion with management and review of the future financial information, determination of whether the future financial information has been prepared using the disclosed assumptions and risks;
- Check that the opening balances contained within the future financial information are consistent with the balance sheet shown in the immediately preceding annual financial statements; and
- Check that the future financial information has been formally approved by the executive body of the licence applicant.
- If applicable: examine corresponding supporting documents, including for example agreements with sponsors, banking facilities, share capital increase, bank guarantees and minutes of the board.

Licensor's decision :

No breach of indicators

- A) The licence applicant must be sanctioned by the licensor in accordance with the FSGC Catalogue of Sanctions for the FSGC Club Licensing System (see Articles 7 and 14 par. 3) if it does not submit future financial information that meets the minimum requirements for the content within the defined deadline.

Breach of an indicator

The UEFA Licence must be refused if:

- A) The future financial information is not submitted to the licensor within the defined deadline.
- B) The licence applicant submits in due time future financial information that does not meet the minimum disclosure requirements;
- C) Based on the financial information that the licensor has assessed, in the licensor's judgement, the licence applicant may not be able to continue as a going concern until at least the end of the licence season.

Assessment of overdue payables – enhanced

In respect of the enhanced overdue payables requirements (towards football clubs, employees and social/tax authorities) the licensor must perform, as a minimum, the following assessment procedures:

read the licensee's completed payables information and make enquiries to the licensee if there is any information that may be incomplete and/or inaccurate based on the licensor's existing knowledge of the licensee from club licensing and/or other reasonable information sources;

in relation to the transfer payables information, verify the completeness of the list of players submitted with the information already disclosed for the purpose of players' registrations for the 12 month period up to 30 June/30 September.

Assessment of break-even information

In respect of the break-even information the licensor must assess whether or not the financial information submitted by the licensee corresponds to the information in respect of the same reporting entity/entities submitted for club licensing purposes.

The assessment procedures must include, as a minimum, the following:

check whether the break-even information is arithmetically accurate;

check that the balances contained within the break-even information are consistent with the balances contained in the audited financial statements, supplementary information or underlying accounting records;

check that the break-even information has been formally approved by the executive body of the licensee.

The licensor must confirm to the UEFA Club Financial Control Body the results of the above assessment procedures.

ANNEX VII: Club Licensing criteria for the UEFA Women's Champions League

To be eligible to participate in the UEFA Women's Champions League, a licence applicant must fulfil the following club licensing criteria:

Sporting Criteria

1. Youth teams

- a) The licence applicant must at least have one women's youth team within the age range of 12 and 17.
- b) Each women's youth team within this age range must take part in official competitions or programmes played at national, regional or local level and recognised by the UEFA Member Association

2. Medical care of players

- a) The licence applicant must establish and apply a policy to ensure that all players eligible to play for its women's senior team undergo a yearly medical examination in accordance with the relevant provisions of the UEFA Medical Regulations.
- b) The licence applicant must establish and apply a policy to ensure that all players above the age of 12 undergo a yearly medical examination in accordance with the relevant provisions defined by their licensor in line with their domestic legislation.

3. Registration of players

All the licence applicant's players, including youth players above the age of 12, must be registered with the UEFA member association and/or its affiliated league in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

4. Written contract with professional players

All licence applicants' professional players must have a written contract with the licence applicant in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

5. Refereeing matters and Laws of the Game

- a) The licence applicant must attend a session or an event on refereeing matters provided by the UEFA member association or with its collaboration during the year prior to the licence season.
- b) As a minimum, the women's senior team captain or her replacement and the women's senior team head coach or the assistant head coach must attend this session or event.

6. Racial equality and anti-discrimination practice

The licence applicant must establish and apply a policy to tackle racism and discrimination in football in line with UEFA's 10-point plan on racism as defined in the *UEFA Safety and Security Regulations*.

7. Child protection and welfare

The licence applicant must establish and apply measures, in line with any relevant UEFA guidelines, to protect, safeguard and ensure the welfare of youth players and ensure they are in a safe environment when participating in activities organised by the licence applicant.

Infrastructure Criteria

8. Stadium for UEFA Women's Champions League

- a) The licence applicant must have a stadium available for the UEFA Women's Champions League which must be within the territory of the UEFA member association and approved by the UEFA member association.
- b) If the licence applicant is not the owner of a stadium, it must provide a written contract with the owner(s) of the stadium(s) it will use.
- c) It must be guaranteed that the stadium(s) can be used for the licence applicant's UEFA home matches during the licence season.
- d) The stadium(s) must fulfil the minimum requirements defined in the UEFA Stadium Infrastructure Regulations and be classified at least as a UEFA category 1 stadium.

9. Training facilities - Availability

- a) The licence applicant must have training facilities available throughout the year.
- b) It must be guaranteed that the training facilities can be used by all teams of the licence applicant during the licence season.

Personnel and Administrative Criteria

10. Club secretariat

The licence applicant must have appointed an adequate number of skilled secretarial staff according to its needs to run its daily business. It must have an office space in which to run its administration. It must ensure that its office is open to communicate with the licensor and the public and that it is equipped, as a minimum, with phone, fax, email facilities and a website.

11. Administrative manager

The licence applicant must have appointed a manager who is responsible for running its operative matters linked to women's football.

12. Medical doctor

- a) The licence applicant must have appointed at least one doctor who is responsible for medical support of the women's senior team during matches and trainings as well as for doping prevention.
- b) The qualification of the medical doctor must be recognised by the appropriate national health authorities.

13. Physiotherapist

- a) The licence applicant must have appointed at least one physiotherapist who is responsible for medical treatment and massages for the women's senior team during training and matches.

b) The qualification of the physiotherapist must be recognised by the appropriate national health authorities.

14. Head coach of women's senior team

a) The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified head coach who is responsible for football matters of the women's senior team.

b) The head coach must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications:

i) Valid UEFA A coaching licence of a UEFA member association ;

ii) Valid non-UEFA coaching diploma which is equivalent to the one required for the licence under i) above and recognised by UEFA as such.

15. Youth coach

a) The licence applicant must have appointed at least one qualified coach who is responsible for all football matters related to the youth team(s) as defined under item 1(a) above.

b) The youth coach must hold the minimum coaching qualification as defined by the UEFA member association.

16. Rights and duties

The rights and duties of the personnel defined under items 10 to 15 above must be defined in writing.

17. Duty of replacement during the season

a) If a function defined in items 10 to 15 becomes vacant during the licence season, the licensee must ensure that, within a period of a maximum of 60 days, the function is taken over by someone who holds the required qualification.

b) In the event that a function becomes vacant due to illness or accident, the licensor may grant an extension to the 60-day period only if reasonably satisfied that the person concerned is still medically unfit to resume his/her duties.

c) The licensee must promptly notify the licensor of any such replacement.
Legal Criteria

18. Declaration in respect of participation in the UEFA Women's Champions League

a) The licence applicant must submit a legally valid declaration confirming the following:

i) It recognises as legally binding the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, UEFA, the UEFA member association and, if any, the national league as well as the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne as provided in the relevant articles of the *UEFA Statutes*;

ii) At national level it will play in competitions recognised and endorsed by the UEFA member association (e.g. national championship, national cup);

iii) At international level it will participate in competitions recognised by UEFA or FIFA (to avoid any doubt, this provision does not relate to friendly matches);

- iv) It will promptly inform the licensor about any significant change, event or condition of major economic importance;
 - v) It will abide by and observe the club licensing regulations of the licensor;
 - vi) It will abide by and observe the *UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations*;
 - vii) All submitted documents are complete and correct;
 - viii) It authorises the competent national club licensing administration and national club licensing bodies, the UEFA administration and the UEFA Organs for the Administration of Justice to examine any relevant document and seek information from any relevant public authority or private body in accordance with national law;
 - ix) It acknowledges that UEFA reserves the right to execute compliance audits at national level in accordance with Article 51.
- b) The declaration must be executed by an authorised signatory of the licence applicant no more than three months prior to the deadline for its submission to the licensor.

19. Minimum legal information

- a) The licence applicant must submit a copy of its current, valid statutes (e.g. company act).
- b) The licence applicant must further submit an extract from a public register (e.g. trade register) or an extract from the UEFA member association's club register containing the following minimum information:
 - i) Complete legal name;
 - ii) Address of headquarters;
 - iii) Legal form;
 - iv) List of authorised signatories;
 - v) Type of required signature (e.g. individual, collective).

Financial Criteria

20. Annual financial statements

- a) Annual financial statements in respect of the statutory closing date prior to the deadline for submission of the application to the licensor and prior to the deadline for submission of the list of licensing decisions to UEFA must be prepared and submitted in accordance with national legislation.
- b) The annual financial statements must consist of a balance sheet and a profit and loss account as a minimum.

21. No overdue payables towards football clubs, employees and social/tax authorities

The licence applicant must prove that it has no overdue payables towards other football clubs, employees and social/tax authorities, as set out in Articles 45, 46 and 46bis. For the purpose of this provision, the term "employees" includes all professional players according to the applicable FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players as well as the administrative, technical and medical staff specified under items 11 to 15 above.