

# FC BARCELONA STATUTES

23<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021



Modification to the FC Barcelona Statutes passed by Ordinary General Assembly on 23th October 2021

# SUMMARY

#### **CHAPTER 01: ON THE CLUB**

(art. 1 to 8) Page 6

## **CHAPTER 2: ON THE CLUB MEMBERS**

(art. 9 to 15) Page 9

## **CHAPTER 3: ON SUPPORTERS CLUBS AND MERITORIOUS** AND HONORARY MEMBERS AND PROTECTOR MEMBERS

(art. 16 and 17) Page 15

## **CHAPTER 4: GOVERNING BODIES.** ADMINISTRATIVE, MANAGERIAL AND **ADVISORY BODIES**

(art. 18 to 60 bis) **SECTION 1:** THE CLUB'S GOVERNING BODIES **SECTION 2:** GENERAL ASSEMBLY **SECTION 3:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS **SECTION 4:** ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. ELECTORAL **PROCEDURE** 

**SECTION 5:** VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE **SECTION 6: COLLABORATING** GOVERNING. ADMINISTRATIVE. MANAGEMENT AND ADVISORY BODIES Page 16

#### **CHAPTER 5: DOCUMENTARY SYSTEM**

(art. 61 to 63) Page 57

## **CHAPTER 6: FINANCIAL SYSTEM**

(art. 64 to 67) Page 60

## **CHAPTER 7: DISCIPLINARY AND JURISDICTIONAL SYSTEM**

(arts 68 to 79) Page 62

## **CHAPTER 8: MODIFICATION OF** THE STATUTES

(art. 80 and 81) Page 70

## **CHAPTER 9: EXTINCTION AND** DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB. MERGER. ABSORPTION. SEGREGATION. LIQUIDATION.

(art. 82 to 86) Page 71

#### **TEMPORARY PROVISIONS**

Page 72

#### **ANNEX**

Page 73

# CHAPTER 1 ON THE CLUB

NATURE
NAME AND CREST
DOMICILE
FUNCTIONAL AREA
TERRITORIAL AREA
LANGUAGE
APPLICABLE REGULATIONS
REGISTER

#### **Article 1 Nature**

FUTBOL CLUB BARCELONA is a private Catalan sports association of natural persons, with its own legal status and capacity to act, constituted on November 29 of the year 1899.

#### Article 2 Name and crest

The name of the association is Futbol Club Barcelona (FC BARCELONA) and its crest is the following:

The description and identification of the colours of the crest are attached as an annex.

#### **Article 3 Domicile**

The club's official head office is located in the city of Barcelona at Av. d'Artístides Maillol. s/n.

## **Article 4 Functional scope**

The aims of the Club are:

1. Primarily, the promotion, practice, dissemination and exhibition of football, as well as basketball, handball, roller hockey, futsal, hockey, ice hockey, figure skating, athletics, rugby and volleyball.

Other sports can be added and removed, if appropriate, by agreement of the Board of Directors, which must be ratified by the General Assembly.

- 2. Additionally, the promotion of and participation in the social, community care, cultural, artistic, scientific or recreational activities that are appropriate and necessary to maintain the representativeness and public image enjoyed by the Club in Catalonia and around the world, which is the result of a permanent tradition of loyalty and service to the members, citizens, and Catalonia.
- 3. In addition, the Club will ensure the protection and promotion of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights contained in the International Charter of Human Rights proclaimed by the United Nations.

The Club in its actions, both public and private, will ensure the equality of rights and dignity of all people.

- **4.** In compliance with these objectives, the Club:
- a) participates in and organises sport demonstrations and competitions;
- b) promotes the practice of sports by means of the sections, especially among young people;
- c) takes part in the social, community care, cultural, artistic, scientific or recreational activities agreed by its governing bodies;
- d) fosters relations between members and third parties, and relations with other institutions, all with the common purpose of maintaining and improving the sporting and social significance enjoyed by the Club;
- e) promotes, through the FC Barcelona Foundation, the Club's community care, civic and social dimension in Catalonia and around the world:
- f) will promote the democratic values of equality and non-discrimination;
- g) will fight for the eradication of all sexist, homophobic and racist attitudes in the social sphere and in sports.

#### Article 5 Territorial area

Maintaining the Club's Catalan identity, FC Barcelona must partake in the sporting and complementary activities outlined in the previous article, in the local, national, state or international spheres as appropriate and demanded by the sports competitions or complementary activities in which it participates.

#### Article 6 Language

The language of FC Barcelona is Catalan and, therefore, this will be the normal language of preferred use in all the Club's activities.

## Article 7 Applicable regulations

The Club will be governed by these statutes and, on matters not covered herein, by the dispositions that regulate the functions of sports associations and clubs, and by the regulations applicable to it in the statutes and regulations of the sports federations or associations of clubs in the areas of the Club's different sporting activities.

When federative regulations are of subsidiary application, these will principally be understood to be those of football federations, unless regulating the specific sporting or disciplinary aspects of a different sports activity to football, in which case the regulations of the corresponding federation shall be applied.

For the purpose of terms computation, working days will be considered as all calendar days except Sundays and public holiday days in Barcelona.

## **Article 8 Register**

FC Barcelona is inscribed in the Register of Sporting Bodies of the Government of Catalonia, and the Register of Sports Associations of the "Consejo Superior de Deportes", as well as the registers of the Catalan, State or International Federations or Associations of Clubs for the sports activities that the Club practices.

## CHAPTER 02 ON THE CLUB MEMBERS

## **TYPES RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS ACOUISITION. SUSPENSION OR LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP**

#### Article 9 On the Club members

FC Barcelona Club members, who can only be natural persons, will be named as follows:

- Child (Alevins), until 5 years;
- Youth (Infantils), from 6 years to 14 years;
- Adults, from 15 years;
- Seniors, from 65 years, as long as they have been active members for a total of at least 40 years.
- Senators, since the moment the member enjoys a number equal to or less than 1.000.

The aforementioned names will come into effect the following season after complying with the corresponding requisites.

## **Article 10 Rights of club members**

Members, whose status as such will be personal and non-transferable, will have the following rights:

- 10.1. To be delegates, in accordance with the circumstances and conditions established in article 22.
- **10.2.** To be electors and eligible for positions on the Board of Directors, in accordance with the stipulations of articles 41 and 42 respectively, or for positions on any other governing, administrative or advisory body regulated by these Statutes or that is created by the Board of Directors in accordance with applicable regulations.
- 10.3. To participate in the sports activities, and social, recreational, cultural or scientific activities, that the Club organises for the benefit of its members, in accordance with the standards and regulations provided by the Board of Directors.

10.4. To attend the sports events organised by the Club in accordance with the seating allocations that at any given moment are assigned to members depending on existing availability. For each of the Club's facilities or sports disciplines, only one single seat can be allocated to one single member.

The Board of Directors, in accordance with the conditions it establishes, can assign seats allocated to Club members in FC Barcelona facilities to other persons, as long as they are currently members and have held that status for at least five years, are not already assigned to another seat in the facility or for the sports discipline and can accredit the agreement or will of the seat-holder and the applicant for the new assignation by their coming in person to the Club offices, presenting public written notice or a private document legitimately signed before a notary in which the seatholder's consent is stated, or the documentation required in the case of death as regulated by article 15.2.

Onerous transfer by members to whom seats are allocated of the right to attend sports events using the seats that are the object of that allocation, except when said transfer is made through or to the benefit of the Club, is expressly prohibited.

- **10.5.** To attend sports events in official competitions that are not organised by the Club but in which the Club participates, using the seats allocated by the Club. Should the number of members interested in using said seats be greater than the number of seats available, the Club will hold a draw among members and may apply objective weighting criteria. Moreover, up to a maximum number of 15% of allocated seats must be excluded from the draw to cover the Club's contractual and institutional obligations.
- 10.6. To be informed about any issue that individually affects their status of being a Club member and their relations with the Club
- 10.7. To access the documentation required to pass the agreements of the General Assembly under the same conditions as delegate members.
- 10.8. To access the agreements of the Assembly and Board of Directors in accordance with the established terms, apart from those which because of the nature of their content could suppose serious damages to the Club's interests, or could violate regulations on the protection of personal data or confidentiality criteria or agreements.
- 10.9. To be respected in terms of rights of honour, dignity and privacy, including, in terms of the latter, non-disclosure in public or to third parties of their home address or other personal circumstances contained in files concerning them, except in the case of disciplinary matters, which must be regulated by the stipulations of Chapter 7.

- 10.10. To request and receive the assistance of the Members' Ombudsman under the terms established by these Statutes.
- 10.11. To be included in the season ticket waiting list, where in correlative order of time served as a member, all applications presented must be noted, and to receive a season ticket when one becomes available to them. Members that have applied for a season ticket have the right to register in order to verify their position, in terms of time served as a member, on the waiting list.

#### Article 11 Obligations of Club members

- 11.1. To comply with the Club Statutes, the agreements of the General Assembly, internal regulations, and regulations agreed by the Board of Directors when exercising the faculties bestowed upon them.
- 11.2. To exercise all of the rights bestowed upon them through their status as members with the dignity and respect warranted by the image, good name and public projection of the Club and, in relation to their right to participate in the Club's activities and to freedom of speech and expression, with respect to the honour, dignity and intimacy warranted by other members, delegates, directors, sports people, players, coaching staff, employees and any other person associated to the Club.
- 11.3. To contribute to sustaining the Club's financial responsibilities, by periodically making all ordinary and extraordinary payments as stipulated by the Statutes or agreed by the General Assembly or Board of Directors as part of their respective competences, in the form of entry, periodical or extraordinary fees; season tickets or other contributions for the use of the Club facilities and services, or the attendance of the sports competitions and events that the Club organises or in which its sportspeople or teams participate.
- 11.4. To contribute to compliance with the Club's activities, both sporting and through participation in the governing, advisory or managing bodies when relevant.
- **11.5.** To attend promptly to statutorily corresponding financial obligations of any kind, other than those mentioned in section 11.3 of this article, which the members have to the Club, and to compensate the Club punctually for damage or losses caused to the Club assets as a consequence of the actions or omissions of a duly accredited member.
- 11.6. To provide an address or other appropriate data to which Club communications can be sent, and to duly notify of any changes.
- 11.7. To provide a current account number with a credit institution to which membership fees or contributions can be charged, and to which Club payments can be made.

11.8. To undertake the procedures for the updating of the membership list as requested by the Club, whether this requires the presence of the member or the provision of the data required.

## **Article 12 Acquisition of membership**

The incorporation of members into the Club is a power entrusted to the Board of Directors, which may at any time establish temporary limitations on the maximum number of members, or general conditions for admission.

The member's admission must be made by means of an in-person or telematic application with a digital signature or similar security element of the interested party, or their legal representatives if they are minors or are disabled.

The application for admission must be made through the forms to be provided by the Club's Administration, with the personal details agreed by the Board of Directors, which must necessarily include a commitment to accept the Statutes and the direct debiting of the payments in a checking account from a credit institution.

The Board of Directors may delegate to the Secretary the power to admit the members, when they meet the general requirements established by the Statutes and the Board.

The agreement to admit the member must be communicated in writing to the interested party, accompanied by a copy of the Statutes, and indicating their corresponding member number, which must be assigned to them correlatively and based on the order of the applications.

The incorporation of new members must be registered in the registry regulated by Article 61.1.

Should the admission of new members be suspended, the Board of Directors may establish the creation of a register of applications for admission in which to record, in correlative order of receipt, those that are received. Applicants registered in this register must have a preferential right to join the Club when the admission of new members opens again.

## Article 13 Mechanisms for the direct participation of members

In order to foster transparency and participation, to increase democratic quality and to improve the relations between members and the Club's governing bodies, the following mechanisms for direct participation are established:

a) The Board of Directors may use any digital or telematic means at its disposal to create a space for conducting surveys, opening forums for debate, or any other telematic procedure that enables it to understand the members' opinion on matters of interest affecting the life of the Club, for merely consultative purposes. Likewise, it may use these means to provide members with any information that

- might be of interest to them, as well as any information that is most frequently requested;
- b) With respect to matters of particular importance, the procedure by which members are consulted may be regulated, and the results of the same will be considered binding. The initiative for this procedure corresponds to the Board of Directors or the General Assembly depending on their respective competences. The announcement of the consultation must respect the following requirements:
- The characteristics and duration of the procedure must be specified, and the latter may be no less than fifteen days and no more than one month.
- The system of guarantee and the control measures with regard to the process must be specified. If not specified, the consultation must be adapted to the provisions of articles 40 and following of the Statutes in reference to the election process.
- Consultations cannot be called during the election period, or during the six months prior to the announcement of the start of the election process. Only adult members may vote, and they must have been members for at least one year and not currently have their membership status suspended.

#### Article 14 Suspension of club member status

- **14.1.** Club member status may only be suspended individually and for reasons covered by these Statutes.
- **14.2.** Suspension of Club member status will be produced by disciplinary decision agreed on the basis of the cases of serious and very serious infringements in relation to membership conduct as detailed in articles 73 and 74 of the Statutes. The suspension must be agreed by the Disciplinary Commission referred to in article 59, by the procedure outlined in article 77.
- **14.3.** The maximum period for suspension of Club member status will be two years.
- **14.4.** During the period of the suspension, the Club member may not exercise the rights granted under article 10.

## Article 15 Loss of club member status

15.1. Loss of club member status can only be produced individually and for the following causes:

- Due to express decision of the member, communicated formally to the Club;
- Due to death of the Club member:
- Due to disciplinary decision resolved in the circumstances of very serious infringements related with the misdemeanours by members as envisaged in article 75:
- Due to lack of payment of the member's ordinary or regular fee or any extraordinary fee or levy.

In the third of the aforementioned cases, the loss must be resolved by the Disciplinary Committee referred to in article 60, through the procedure explained in article 77. In the cases of sections a) and b), the loss will occur automatically as soon as the Club has knowledge of the member's decision or death.

In the fourth of the aforementioned cases, on failure of payment the Club will notify this circumstance to the member, with a warning that if payment is not forthcoming within thirty calendar days, the Club membership will be cancelled. Should the said period expire without the outstanding payment being settled, the member will be deregistered from the Club membership list, and will be notified appropriately.

In addition, the Club may cancel the membership of persons who, after being requested to do so two irrefutable times and 3 months after the second request, have not undertaken the required procedure for the update of the membership list.

**15.2.** In the case of death of the Club member, the Board of Directors, under the conditions it establishes, may assign the corresponding seat that the deceased Club member may have been allocated to his or her heir or a person designated by the deceased, as long as that person has or acquires Club membership, is not already assigned to another seat in the same facility or sports discipline and notifies the Club within 12 months from the date of the death that said death has occurred and of his or her position as the heir or person designated by the deceased, providing the documentation to accredit this, as well as, in the case of there being several heirs, a document in which the other heirs declare their consent for the seat to be allocated to the applicant. In the event of litigation between the different interested parties, the result of the same will determine the allocation. In the meantime, the season ticket will not be given to any heir but shall instead remain at the disposition of the Club until the new holder of the season ticket is legally determined.

In whichever case, the seat can only be allocated to one single Club member. In tribute to the memory of the deceased Club member, the Board of Directors will present that person's spouse or common-law partner, children or, when relevant, heir, a diploma accrediting the membership number assigned to the deceased at the time of his or her death.

## ON SUPPORTERS CLUBS AND MERITORIOUS AND HONORARY MEMBERS AND PROTECTOR **MEMBERS**

## Article 16 Supporters Clubs (Penyes)

- 1. FC Barcelona recognise Supporters Clubs, so-called "Penyes", as a social movement for its history, territorial extension, social pluralism, consolidation and public promotion of the Club.
- 2. The Supporters Clubs are grouped in territorial federations which are also part of the FC Barcelona Supporters Clubs World Confederation.
- 3. The Supporters Clubs are constituted in accordance with the Regulation of Supporters Clubs, which is approved by the Confederation and the Board of Directors of the Club.
- **4.** The representatives of the Confederation are part of the Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of article 23.1 of these Statutes.

## Article 17 Meritorious and Honorary Members and Protector Members

The General Assembly may distinguish those individuals and legal persons who merit such acknowledgement through their designation as Meritorious or Honorary Members, in recognition of their devotion to the Club or importance.

## GOVERNING BODIES. ADMINISTRATIVE, MANAGERIAL AND ADVISORY BODIES

## SECTION 1 THE CLUB'S GOVERNING BODIES

#### **Article 18 The Club's Governing Bodies**

The Club's Governing Bodies are:

- The General Assembly, and
- The Board of Directors.

## SECTION 2 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## Article 19 Nature of the General Assembly

The General Assembly is FC Barcelona's supreme governing body, and its agreements are binding for all Club members and the Board of Directors.

## **Article 20 Competences of the General Assembly**

The competences of the General Assembly are:

- **20.1.** To examine the official record or report of the Club's activities for the previous financial year, which should be presented by the Board of Directors.
- **20.2.** To examine and approve the liquidation of the previous financial year, involving closure of books and profit and loss accounts, and any audit or audits that have been undertaken either voluntarily or by regulation with regard to the aforesaid documents.
- **20.3.** To examine and approve the budget for the following financial year, along with all compulsory reports.
- **20.4.** To determine the amounts for the ordinary or entry fees for Club members, except when the amendment is only intended to restore their value through application of a maximum of the percentage variation in the consumer price index (CPI) since the previous amendment.
- **20.5.** To determine extraordinary fees or levies.

- 20.6. To authorise the acquisition, lien or sale of material assets of a value greater than 10% of the annual budgeted income. The Assembly must approve this by a two thirds majority of those in attendance.
- **20.7.** To authorise the issue of transferable debt securities, or the acceptance of money in the form of credits or loans that suppose an increase in the Club's overall debt, the value of which is greater than 10% of the annual budgeted income. The Assembly must approve this by a two thirds majority of those in attendance.
- 20.8. To ratify the Board of Directors' agreements to sign contracts with third parties to transfer the exploitation of Club rights to its own image, name, symbols, advertising or media broadcasting when the duration of these is in excess of five years or seasons.
- **20.9.** To ratify the Board of Directors' agreements to sign contracts that involve the inclusion of advertising on the official playing shirts of the football first team or in the name of the Stadium or Palau. Ratification by the Assembly is required for every advertising contract.
- **20.10.** To ratify the nominations of the members of the Board of Directors, designated in accordance with the dispositions of article 35.1, the Members' Ombudsman and the members of the Financial Commission.
- 20.11. To pass any proposals that the members wish to present to the General Assembly, as long as these have the support of 3% of the Club members with the right to be voted for or 10% of the Club delegates and have been presented to the Club Offices at least five days before the Assembly is held.
- **20.12.** To pass any proposals to the Board of Directors, any project to modify the Statutes and the obligatory adaptation of these to any legal or regulatory standard, as well as dispositions developing the Statutes and regulations for internal operations.
- 20.13. To pass any proposals for the merger, absorption or transformation of the Club that may be presented by the Board of Directors
- 20.14. To approve any proposal that the Board of Directors agrees to submit to the General Assembly.
- **20.15.** To be informed of the delegates' opinions in the form of an open floor question and answer session.
- **20.16.** Any other business that by virtue of a legal disposition or the present Statutes is reserved for the competence of the General Assembly

## **Article 21 Types of General Assembly**

The General Assembly can be Ordinary or Extraordinary.

The Ordinary Assembly is that which must compulsorily be held every year, within the four calendar months following the end of the financial year, and at which any of the competences of the Assembly listed in the previous article may be submitted. and at least and necessarily, those of sections 20.1, 20.2, 20.3 and 20.16.

Extraordinary Assemblies will be all others held during the financial year that are not compulsory or ordinary, to deal with any of the issues listed in the previous section.

## Article 22 Composition of the General Assembly

The General Assembly will be formed by delegates, who must conform to the following circumstances:

- Be of adult age.
- 2. Have been a member for a minimum of five years, and,
- Not have their membership suspended.

Member delegates must conform to these circumstances on the first day of July of the first season in which they are elected to be such and at the moment that the General Assembly is held. For these purposes, the draw must be made using a list of the members that comply with these requirements at the time when their mandate begins.

## Article 23 Procedure for the designation of delegates. Notification and accreditation

- 23.1. Delegates are members that satisfy the criteria cited in the previous article and, in addition, belong to any of the following groups:
- a) All the Senators of the Club, in accordance with the provisions of article 9 of these Statutes.
- b) Members of the Board of Directors at the moment that the General Assembly is held:
- c) Members of the Club's statutory commissions;
- d) Ex-presidents of the Club;
- e) The democratically elected Presidents of the Territorial Supporters Club Federations that have been members for at least five years;
- f) A 2.5% representation of the members selected by a random draw from all adults that have been members for at least five years and whose membership status has not been suspended and that are not already delegates by virtue of any of the definitions from letters a) to e).
- **23.2.** Delegate status is personal and not delegable.
- 23.3. The total number of delegate members can never be, under any circumstances, more than six thousand. If, due to the number of members, this should be the

case, the percentage stipulated under letter f) of the first section of this article will automatically be reduced by the necessary amount.

- 23.4. Once a member has been named as a delegate, he/she may renounce this status at any time as long as this renunciation is made within a period of at least one month before the date scheduled for the holding of the General Assembly.
- 23.5. In order to guarantee the application of the principle of the greatest participation in and representativeness of the Assembly, in the draw stipulated under letter f) of the first section of this article, provisions shall be made for an equal number of substitute delegates, in the order in which they were drawn, for any members that in accordance with section 4 of this article and article 25.2, renounce their delegate status.

## Article 24 Term of office of delegates

Delegates chosen by draw will remain in office for two seasons, which will begin on the day that the financial year begins (July 1) and end on the last day of the following financial year (June 30).

## Article 25 Procedure for the designation of delegates. Notification and accreditation

- 25.1. The procedure for the designation of delegates will be organised by the Board of Directors during the financial year before the expiry of the term of office of those delegates chosen by draw, and early enough for the delegates to have been nominated by June 30.
- **25.2.** The designation of delegates by the draw system will observe the procedure outlined in article 26. The chosen members will remain unchanged for the full delegacy period and may renounce their status at any time during the same, within the period stipulated in article 23.4, by sending the corresponding communication to the Board of Directors, and these must be substituted in accordance with the stipulations of article 23.5. The delegates that are selected for being the longestserving members will be designated by the Board of Directors before each Assembly is held, of a number corresponding to the method outlined in the following section and on the basis of the most recent updated electoral roll at the moment of the delegation.
- 25.3. To determine the number of delegates to be designated on the basis of being the longest-serving members and by draw, the total number of members on the final day of the previous financial year (June 30) will be taken into account, and this figure will be invariable for all Assemblies held during the delegacy period of all delegates chosen by draw.

- 25.4. The nomination of the delegates will be communicated to the interested parties in writing, stating the date that the delegacy period begins and ends, along with the period in which they may renounce this right.
- 25.5. The delegates will be issued with documentary proof of their status, which will bear their name, their membership number and the duration of their delegacy period.

## Article 26 Election by draw of delegates

- **26.1.** The Club's Board of Directors will publicly announce the holding of a draw to designate delegates under the terms of article 23.1, section f), by placing an announcement in a widely-read Barcelona newspaper or through direct communication to the whole Club membership. Likewise, the holding of the draw must also be announced on the Club website.
- **26.2.** Until two days before the draw and during a minimum period of ten working days, all members that satisfy the conditions to be delegates in accordance with article 22.1, will be able to view in the club offices, during working hours, the total and complete membership list, in the form of a printed list or a computer database. The electoral roll will be prepared in accordance with the stipulations of article 47.
- **26.3.** All claims relating to the electoral roll must be processed in accordance with the procedure detailed in article 47.2 and the functions bestowed therein upon the Electoral Board shall be assumed by the Board of Directors, with the intervention of the Members' Ombudsman.
- **26.4.** The draw will be held at the Club's head office and will be open to all members. The Secretary will be that of the Board of Directors, who will draft the minutes. It must be attended by the Members' Ombudsman, as well as a notary to bear legal witness to the procedure.
- **26.5**. The draw will be made using a computer system that guarantees participation of all Club members that satisfy the conditions to be delegates in accordance with article 22.1, the random nature of the draw, and the equal opportunities of all eligible persons.
- **26.6.** Once delegate status has been definitively allocated, all members must be guaranteed the possibility of consulting and accessing the names, surnames and membership numbers of the delegates at the Club offices.
- **26.7.** The details referred to in the previous section will be managed by the Delegates Office, which must deal with all matters in relation to the organisation of assemblies from the perspective of the delegates and their relations with other members. The Board of Directors will regulate its operations.

## Article 27 Summoning of General Assemblies

27.1. The summoning of General Assemblies, both ordinary and extraordinary, will be made by agreement of the Board of Directors, on its own initiative or by request of the members. The date when general assemblies are held, whether ordinary or extraordinary, must preferably coincide with the day of an official match in the Stadium.

27.2. When it is the members that demand an Assembly to be summoned, this must be done in writing, with the support of a minimum of 10% of the Club members, or a minimum of 30% of the delegates, specifically declaring the object of the Assembly and the text of the Agenda being proposed. In order to determine the sufficiency and validity of the support, the procedure outlined in article 48.3 will be applied, and the functions bestowed therein upon the Electoral Committee shall be assumed by the Board of Directors, with the intervention of the Members' Ombudsman. The Board of Directors will not be obliged to call an Assembly when the subject proposed by the members refers to an issue that has already been dealt with and resolved by the Assembly during the six months before the date of the request.

27.3. General Assemblies will be summoned through an announcement in a widelyread Barcelona newspaper or by communication to all of the delegates, and also by announcement on the Club website.

Between the publication of the announcement or communication to the delegates and the holding of the Assembly, there must be a minimum of 15 calendar days and a maximum of 60 calendar days.

- 27.4. When the Assembly had been requested by the members, the Board of Directors must agree to summon it within fifteen calendar days of receiving the request, and the period for holding it may not be any later than fifteen days after said announcement.
- 27.5. In announcing that General Assemblies are being summoned, the date, time, venue and Agenda must be declared. If the General Assembly is summoned by initiative of the Club members or delegates, the Agenda must necessarily declare their proposals, as well as those agreed by the Board of Directors.

#### Article 28 Information prior to General Assemblies

During a period of no less than 10 working days before the Assembly is held, the Club must provide to all members that request one, a copy of the documents containing information on the same exclusively for their own personal use and study and at their own responsibility.

In reference to items of a financial nature that are the competence of the General Assembly and are described in article 20, sections 2 and 3, the documentation that must be provided to the delegates for their examination will be, at least, the following:

- Report on the liquidation of the budget for the financial year that has just ended.
- Balance and profit and loss accounts for the financial year ended, with tvhe auditor's report.
- Budget for the new financial year.

The aforementioned documentation will be prepared in accordance with the criteria established in Chapter 6 on the Financial System.

## Article 29 Holding of the General Assembly

## **29.1.** Accreditation of delegates

In order to attend the Assembly, all delegates must accredit beforehand and in documentary form their person and their status as delegates, in accordance with the regulations stipulated by the Board of Directors. They must also accredit their person at any time during the General Assembly itself, at the request of the Presiding Committee.

#### **29.2.** President and Secretary of the Assembly

The Assembly will be chaired by a Presiding Committee made up of members of the Board of Directors, and the Secretary will be that of the Board of Directors itself.

## **29.3.** Constitution and commencement of the Assembly

The Assembly will be validly constituted, for the first summons, when half of the delegates are present. For the second summons, the Assembly will be validly constituted whatever the number of delegates present.

Between the first and second summons there must be a period of 30 minutes.

The number of delegates, in order to calculate the quorum for the first summons, will be the total of those resulting from article 23.1.

#### 29.4. Chairing and development of the Assembly

The Assembly will be chaired by the President, who will be assisted by the Secretary. The President may delegate these functions at any time to any member of the Presiding Committee. The different items on the Agenda will be dealt with separately, but the Presiding Committee may change the order.

The President will chair the debates, will grant and withhold the right to speak, and will do everything necessary to ensure that the meeting runs in an orderly manner.

The Presiding Committee may agree, before or during the Assembly, on the maximum number of speeches and their lengths.

Before speaking, delegates must state their name and membership number.

The President, or Secretary, will warn speakers when: they have run out of time, they have moved away from the topic of debate, they adopt attitudes or make declarations that dishonour or tarnish the good name of persons or organisations, or that affect the order or normality of the meeting. If despite the warning the speaking member persists with such behaviour, he or she may be refused the right to speak and, if necessary, it may be agreed for him or her to be expelled from the Assembly.

#### 29.5. Resolutions and votes

General Assembly resolutions will be passed by simple majority among those present, unless.

- a) They amend the Statutes, which requires a majority of two thirds of those present, unless this involves the compulsory application of an imperative regulation, a case that will not be considered to be a modification of the Statutes and for which a vote in favour by a simple majority at the time of the vote shall be considered sufficient:
- b) Items that require a qualified majority, under terms of articles 20, 57, 66, 83, 84 and 85::
- c) Any other issue that, according to the Statutes or the valid regulations of the time, require a qualified majority.

The Presiding Committee will decide at each time the voting method, which may be by the procedure of delegates standing up, raising their hands, displaying different coloured cards, may be a roll-call vote, may be an electronic vote, may call for each delegate to vote in secret, or may be by secret ballot. In all cases, the voting will offer three simple alternatives: for, against or abstention.

The Assembly's agreements must be published on the Club website within a maximum of ten days from the date that it is held, and must be accessible to all memhers

#### **29.6.** Minutes of the Assembly

The Secretary will draft succinct minutes of the Assembly, which shall be passed by three member delegates selected by the Assembly itself from those present, and given the approval of the President.

#### **29.7.** Suspension of the Assembly

If circumstances arise at the Assembly that seriously affect the Agenda or make it impossible for it to be continued, the Presiding Committee may agree to suspend the meeting. The agreement to suspend the meeting will be announced to all present as well as the date when it is to be resumed, which must be within no more than 15 calendar days.

## SECTION 3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Article 30 Nature and function

The Board of Directors is the collegiate governing body of the Club with the role of promoting and directing social activities, through acts of administration, management, representation, disposition and execution as required to comply with the aims of FC Barcelona, the decisions of the General Assembly, and what is detailed in these Statutes.

## **Article 31 Competences**

Generally, the competences of the Board of Directors are all decisions and actions related to the governance of the Club that are not conferred by these Statutes upon the General Assembly.

For illustrative purposes, but not limited to the same, the following are specific competences of the Board of Directors:

- a) Decisions regarding the acquisition of membership status:
- b) Calling of General Assemblies;
- c) Calling of elections to fill the positions of the Board of Directors;
- d) To produce a report of activities, liquidation of the financial year and budget for annual presentation to the General Assembly;
- e) The creation of bodies that participate and collaborate with the Board of Directors, in the form of Commissions or Sections, for specialised development of different areas of activity and responsibilities, while establishing the composition and internal rules of operation. It can also create a body that groups the members of the different Commissions and Sections.
  - These bodies cannot substitute the faculties and responsibilities of the Board of Directors in matters of their competence, and must be limited to collaborating in a specific area or providing advice on matters formulated to them;
- f) The general administration of the Club, establishing its functional organigram, along with its internal, personnel, management, monitoring and control structures:
- g) The nomination and revocation of the employees qualified as pertaining to top management and the establishment of the directives for labour relations with the employees of the Club in aspects of payment, working conditions and contracts;
- h) To establish the policies and objectives of the Club's sporting activities;
- i) Actions of a financial and managerial nature, and the monitoring and control of the financial, accountancy and capital resource areas of the Club, without this being in detriment to the faculties of the General Assembly;
- j) Disciplinary authority in accordance with the stipulations of chapter 7;
- k) The lodging of appeals, claims or demands by administrative, litigious, federative or arbitral means when this is necessary in order to defend the interests of the Club.

- l) Proposals for the modification or adaptation of the Statutes, dispositions for its development and regulations on internal functions, which must be approved by the General Assembly:
- m) Any other competence that, due to legislation or these Statutes, does not correspond to the General Assembly or other governing bodies of the Club.

## Article 32 Concept of director and relation with the Club

- **32.1.** For the purposes of these Statutes, a Director is understood to mean a person who forms part of the Board of Directors.
- **32.2.** This qualification excludes all people associated to the Club through a labour relation, be that relation common or special, or any other type of contractual relation.
- 32.3. Directors cannot be associated to the Club or the Foundation by means of a labour contract. The directors' relationship with the Club is therefore organic and non-contractual, and can therefore not be paid. The statute on directors stipulated in articles 140 to 148 of Decree 58/2010, of May 4, on the sports clubs of Catalonia, shall therefore be applicable to the directors.

## Article 33 Composition of the Board of Directors, positions, nature and functions

The positions the Board must be composed of must have at least 14 members and a maximum of 25, with the positions of president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer being necessary; optionally, and by decision of the board itself, it may designate up to four other vice-presidents, a vice-secretary and the presidents of committees or sections of the Club, as well as the deputies or alternates of these positions, that the Board agrees to appoint for the best governance of the Club.

All the positions of the Board of Directors are honorary and free of remuneration.

#### **33.1.** Functions of the President:

- a) chair and direct the sessions of the General Assembly, the Board of Directors, the Senate and of any committee or section meeting they attend:
- b) decide, with their casting vote, the ties in any vote of the Board of Directors and, where appropriate, of the committees or sections of which they may be part;
- c) the full representation of FC Barcelona and the Board of Directors before third parties:
- d) represent FC Barcelona as a trustee of the Club's Foundation;
- e) assign the different positions and their replacement during the term of office among the members of the Board of Directors;
- f) propose the temporary provision of vacancies of the Board of Directors, in accordance with the provisions of Article 35.1;
- g) in the event that the Delegated Committee regulated by Article 37 is not established, provisionally adopt any decision of collegiate competence of the Board of Directors, when, due to its urgency, it is not possible to wait for the first

meeting called, with the obligation to report it in the next session and obtain its ratification:

h) all others entrusted to them by these Statutes.

## **33.2.** Functions of the Vice-President(s):

- a) perform, on behalf of the President, any of their functions, when delegated to them:
- b) temporarily replace the President in cases of absence, temporary disability or suspension of their term of office;
- c) replace the President when they cease to be in office during the term of office. If there is more than one Vice-President, the substitute must be the one with the highest level, if they have been appointed ordinally, or the one who has been a member longest if they all have the same level, except for the temporary replacements covered in section b) due to the President's temporary absence or incapacity, in which they must directly appoint the Vice-President who will replace them;
- d) all others entrusted to them by these Statutes.

## **33.3.** Functions of the Secretary:

- a) be responsible for the members' register provided for in Article 61.1 and for keeping the data and notes to be made updated;
- b) draft the minutes of the sessions of the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the Senate, and care for the respective minutes books;
- c) issue certifications, credentials and accreditations, with the approval of the President;
- d) dispatch the ordinary affairs of the Secretariat of the Club;
- e) collaborate with the President in the development of the sessions of the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the Senate, report on the agenda and participate in the management of the debates;
- f) all others entrusted to them by these Statutes.

#### **33.4.** Functions of the Vice-secretary:

Replace the Secretary in cases of absence, temporary disability, suspension or termination of their term of office.

#### **33.5.** Functions of the Treasurer:

- a) be responsible for the economic and financial area of the Club and the acts of disposal, present the proposals of the agreements to be adopted on these matters to the Board of Directors and authorise the disbursals with their signature;
- b) take care of all the Club's accounting books and documents;
- c) monitor the annual budget, report monthly to the Board of Directors and make the appropriate proposals when deviations occur;
- d) prepare the reports of the settlement of the financial year and the budget that the Board of Directors must submit annually to the General Assembly, propose

- the conduct of the audits provided for in the Statutes and sign, with the approval of the President, the final documents approved by the Board in these matters;
- e) control the movement of the Club's funds and the situation of the deposits, and their relation to the entries recorded in the accounting books;
- f) issue receipts for the fees and other payments made by the members;
- g) all others entrusted to them by these Statutes.

## **33.6.** Functions of all the members of the Board of Directors:

- a) participate in the Board of Directors' governance tasks, provide their opinion, advice and report on all issues under debate and cast their vote when the decision is made following this procedure;
- b) perform any responsibility entrusted to them by the Board or the President, either by forming part of any section or committee of the Club or developing a specific mandate.

#### Article 34 Term of office

- **34.1.** The term of office for the Board is simultaneous for all members and has a duration of five calendar years, which begin on 1 July and end on 30 June.
- **34.2.** When the Board is renewed due to the early termination of the previous term of office, as provided for in Article 35.4, the new Board will begin its term of office from the moment of taking office, which will take place within ten calendar days following the date of the election. In this case, the duration of the term of office is five full calendar years, plus the time between the date they took office and the next 1 July following the taking of office.
- **34.3.** The President of the Board of Directors may exercise the position, consecutively, for a maximum of two terms of office. The rest of the members of the Board may be re-elected indefinitely.

## Article 35 Vacancies, cessation, suspension and substitution. Management commission

#### **35.1.** Vacancies

The filling of vacant positions on the Board of Directors for each term of office is made by free, in person, direct, equal and secret vote by all Club members with voting rights, in accordance with the stipulations of Section 4 of this Chapter.

Positions on the Board can also be temporarily filled in the case where the totality of the positions have not been covered by the elections, or to substitute those that leave or are suspended from their positions during the term of office, in accordance with what is regulated by this article. This filling of vacancies will not be applicable in the cases of simultaneous and general cessations of components of the Board that surpass the parameters established by article 35.4, and will not affect the substitution of the President when he or she leaves the post during the term of office, in accordance with what is established by article 33.2. c). This situation of temporary filling of vacant positions will be subject to the following regulations:

- a) The nomination will be agreed by the Board of Directors, by proposal of the President, and must befall all members who fulfil the requisites of article 42;
- b) The nomination will be provisional and will be conditioned by ratification by the next General Assembly to be held. If it is not ratified, the person will immediately be removed from the post, without this affecting the full validity of their actions during the provisional period in which that person held office;
- c) The duration of the term of office will be the time remaining for the Board of Directors as a whole, unless this person has been nominated to substitute a member of the Board of Directors when the term of office is in suspension, in which case the term in office of the substitute will be limited to the time of the aforementioned suspension and will end as soon as the substituted person returns to the post.

#### 35.2. Cessation.

The cessation of the members of the Board of Directors can occur for any of the following causes:

- a) Through termination of the natural term of office for which they are elected;
- b) Through loss of the condition of being a Club member;
- Through death or permanent incapacitation that prevents the person from exercising his or her position;
- d) Through loss of the conditions established by article 42 in order to be elected, or any other condition that is statutorily or legally demandable for the exercise of the position;
- e) Through the passing of a vote of confidence;
- f) Through individual renouncement or resignation by the member, accepted by the Board of Directors;
- g) Through general renouncement or resignation in the case and conditions regulated by articles 35.4 and 67.

#### 35.3. Suspension.

The suspension of members of the Board of Directors can be produced for any of the following causes:

- a) By request of the interested party, when circumstances concur that justify this and this is accepted by the Board;
- b) By disciplinary sanction consisting of the suspension of the condition of being a member, as agreed by the Disciplinary Commission as referred to in article 59, and by the procedure established in article 77.

**35.4.** General cessation of the members of the Board. Management Commission If the resignation, renouncement or cessation of the members of the Board of Directors is produced in a simultaneous and generalised fashion, a Management Commission must be constituted to substitute the Board of Directors.

The cessation will be considered to be of a simultaneous and generalised nature if

any of the following situations should arise:

- a) When the vacancies amount to more than 50 per cent of the number of Board members, at the moment of cassation, including the President;
- b) When the vacancies amount to more than 75 per cent of the number of Board members at the time of cessation, even if this has not affected the President;
- c) Whenever the Board is constituted by less than five people.

Concerning the previous regulation, an exception is made in the case of generalised and simultaneous resignation of the Board members when this is done in order to stand for new elections called for the natural end of the term of office, in compliance with the incompatibility regulated by article 42, section f). In this case, if the Board still has a minimum of a third of the number of its members at the time of cessation, the Management Commission will not be constituted and the Board. through the remaining members, will maintain its functions for the transitory period of the election process. In the case that a minimum of one third of the members of the Board does not remain, the members that have not resigned, along with the members of the Electoral Board elected for that process, shall constitute a Provisional Board for the duration of the voting process.

The Management Commission will be made up of a number of members no lower than 50 per cent of the total members of the Board of Directors at the time of the cessation, with a minimum of seven members.

The natural President of the Management Commission will be that of the Financial Commission, who together with the Members' Ombudsman, must freely designate the other members from the members of the outgoing Board, the members of the Financial Commission and the Disciplinary Commission. The positions to be occupied by the designated persons must also be named, along with the total number of members, in accordance with the stipulated minimums and maximums. If the Presidency of the Financial Commission is vacant, or that person does not accept his or her nomination, he or she will be substituted by the Vice President of that Commission

In no case can members of the outgoing Board be designated to the Management Commission if they have been the subjects a vote of no confidence.

The Management Commission will exercise the functions of governance, administration and representation as bestowed upon the Board of Directors, but will be limited to necessary and essential actions for the maintenance of the Club's normal activities and the protection of its interests.

The main role of the Management Commission will be to call elections to constitute a new Board of Directors, which it must do within a period of three months of the day that its members took office. In that case, the voting may not be performed between 15 and 30 June.

In all of the situations covered by this article, the Members' Ombudsman will continue to exercise his or her functions.

## **Article 36 Functioning system**

## **36.1.** Frequency of meetings

The Board of Directors must meet as many times as necessary but always at least once a month, with the optional exception of the month of August.

#### **36.2.** Calling meetings.

The Board will be called to meetings by the Secretary, at the behest of the President. Meetings can also be called by a third of the Board members, and in this case, they must be held within the next seven days. If the meeting is not called during this period, it can be directly called by the oldest member of the Board out of those signing the request.

The call for a meeting must include an Agenda, and will be provided at least 36 hours in advance, unless the meeting is urgent in which case the meeting can be called at shorter notice.

#### **36.3.** Attendance and necessary quorum

For the Board to be validly constituted half of its members, at least, must be present. Meetings of the Board of Directors may be attended, with the right to speak but not to vote, by personnel in Top Management or any other Club employee whose presence is considered necessary to provide information on specific matters.

They can also be attended, with the right to speak but not to vote, by the Presidents of Club's Commissions or Sections that are not members of the Board, when they are invited

#### **36.4.** Background information

Before any Board meeting is held, all of the members of the Board of Directors may request any information they feel necessary about any of the items included in the Agenda.

## **36.5.** Chairing of meetings and agreements

The President, assisted by the Secretary, will chair Board meetings and will oversee the debates and interventions of the members of the Board of Directors.

Agreements will be made by majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors present.

The members of the Board of Directors may request that the Minutes detail the meaning or a brief explanation of their vote.

In the case of a tie, the President will have the casting vote.

#### **36.6.** Confidentiality of meetings

All of the members of the Board of Directors and other persons present are obliged to respect the confidential nature of the Board's deliberations, and are not permitted to disclose them.

## **36.7.** Minutes of meetings

The Secretary must draft the Minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors, making a summary of the items dealt with and the interventions, and will detail all agreements.

At each meeting of the Board of Directors, the Minutes of the previous meeting will be presented, and subjected for approval. If there are any amendments or observations, these will be noted.

The Secretary must draft the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors, which must be subjected to the approval of the same Board, and must archive or transcribe them to the corresponding book, and which should be signed and approved by the President or the member substituting that person.

#### Article 37 Delegate commission

Within the Board of Directors, a Delegate Commission may be constituted containing a maximum of two thirds of the members of the Board of Directors, which will be made up of members designated by the President and which must necessarily include the President, a Vice President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

The Delegate Commission will meet at the behest of the President as many times as necessary and will have the following functions:

- a) To study and prepare the items that are to be subjected to the Board of Directors:
- b) To provisionally adopt any decision that is the competence of the Board of Directors, when for reasons of urgency it is not possible to wait until the next meeting to be called, under the obligation that the Board will be informed of this at the immediately following session and its ratification will be obtained;
- c) To make decisions regarding any matters that have been expressly delegated to it by the Board of Directors and to inform about these at the next meeting of the same.

#### Article 38è Liability of the members of the Board of Directors

The members of the Board of Directors are liable for their actions before the General Assembly

They will also be jointly liable before members for any actions they may have adopted regarding the economic and financial area of the Club that contravene the provisions of these Statutes and Decree 58/2010; paragraph 4 of the Seventh Additional Disposition of State Law 10/1990, of October 15, on Sport, and other currently applicable legislation. The legal requirement of constituting bank guarantees to respond for the financial liability that could affect the Board of Directors is complemented by those affected in the form and by the conditions that are established at any time by current legal provisions.

All the members shall be equally liable for the total amount of the bank guarantee that may be required of the Board, unless individual or internal agreements are made between the members of the Board of Directors for a different distribution of liabilities. The agreements made on this matter must be recorded in the Minutes of the Board of Directors, the certification of which must be provided to the custodian institution holding the bank guarantee.

The partial cessation of members of the Board before the end of the term of office will not free them from any liabilities that the Board might have contracted until the moment of cessation, or from any commitments acquired with respect to the bank guarantee that may have arisen, unless the remaining members of the Board of Directors, or those that substitute them, internally agree to substitute the liabilities of the members that have left and replace them in the bank guarantee. This circumstance will also be noted in the Minutes of the Board. which will be communicated, by certified correspondence, to the custodian institution holding the guarantee.

#### **Article 39 Code of Ethics**

The Board of Directors must approve a mandatory code of ethics for all members of the Board of Directors, for both statutory and non-statutory committees and for all Club executives and employees.

## SECTION 4 ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. ELECTORAL PROCEDURE

## Article 40 Phases and schedule of the electoral process

The procedure for the election of the members of the FC Barcelona Board of Directors will be made in accordance with the following phases and schedule:

PHASES	SCHEDULE
I. Publication of the summons of elections and draw for the election of the members of the Electoral Board and Table.  II. Draw for the designation of the members of the Electoral Board and Table.	5 calendar days
III. Act of constitution of the Electoral Board and Table	2 calendar days

PHASES	SCHEDULE
IV. Display of the Electoral Roll and claims against the Electoral Roll	5 calendar days
V. Resolution of claims by the Electoral Board and passing of the definitive Roll	3 calendar days
VI. Presentation of proposed candidates	7 working days
VII. Proclamation of candidacies	3 working days
VIII. Election campaign	7 working days
IX. Day of reflection	1 natural day
X. Election day, count and proclamation of winners	1 natural day

#### Article 41 Conditions for being an elector

Electors will be all members that satisfy all of the following conditions:

- a) To be an adult and not legally incapacitated,
- b) To have been a Club member for a minimum of one year,
- c) Not to have had their membership suspended,
- d) To be included in the current Electoral Roll in accordance with article 47.

## Article 42 Conditions for being eligible

- a) To be an adult and not legally incapacitated;
- b) To have been a Club member for a minimum of ten years at the moment that the elections are called in order to be elected President, and a minimum of five years for other members of the Board of Directors
- c) Not to have had membership suspended at the moment that the elections are called:
- d) Not to have been associated to FC Barcelona as a player, trainer, member of the coaching staff or employee during the two years prior to the calling of elections;
- e) Not to have been punished disciplinarily by the Club for a very serious infringement during the five years prior to the calling of elections;
- f) To have presented one's resignation and left the position before beginning Stage VI of the electoral procedure (presentation of proposed candidates) in the case of the aspiring candidate being a member of the Board of Directors or Management Commission that has called the elections and seeks to present oneself for re-election;

- g) To be included in the current Electoral Roll.
- h) With respect to the pre-candidate for the Presidency, being of Catalan civil residence status.

A pre-candidate will be understood to mean any member that, in order to stand for election, complies with the conditions to be eligible and has declared before the Election Board their desire to lead a candidacy during the period prior to their effective proclamation as a candidate.

## **Article 43 Calling of elections**

Elections will be called by the Club's Board of Directors or by the Management

Commission as stipulated in article 35.4., in accordance with the following:

#### **43.1.** Terms

When the summoning of elections is because of the expiry of the ordinary term of the mandate, which may not be anticipated except for the circumstance provided in article 35.4 on the appointment of the Management Committee, it must take place during the last six months of the mandate, with the necessary notice so that elections can take place before the final expiry of the mandate.

When the elections are summoned as the consequence of the early termination of the Board of Directors' term of office, with the nomination of a Management Commission, in accordance with what is foreseen by article 35.4, the summons must be made by that Commission within three months of taking office.

The elections to the presidency of the Club must be held between 15 March and 15 June immediately before the end of the term of office, unless this is not possible due to the situation foreseen by article 35.4 and the nomination of a Management Commission. In whichever case, all attempts will be made to ensure that the elections are held on a day when the football first team plays a match in an official competition at the Camp Nou.

#### 43.2. Publication.

The summons for elections will be published on the existing notice board at the Club's head offices and will be made public by means of an announcement in at least one widely-read Barcelona newspaper or by direct communication to the members. Likewise, the announcement must also be published on the Club website. It will also be reported to the Catalan Football Federation.

#### **43.3.** Information about the summons of elections

The summons of an election must provide, at least, information about the following circumstances:

- a) Number of pre-candidates to be presented, which can be decided by each proposed candidate, between a minimum of fourteen and a maximum of twenty-one as established by article 33:
- b) Date of expiry of the mandate:
- c) Conditions to be an elector or eligible candidate as established by articles 41 and 42:
- d) Day and place of the public draw for the designation of members of the Electoral Board and the Electoral Table, which will be held within the five calendar days following the publication of the summons:
- e) Terms for the display of the Electoral Roll, and the form and procedure for claims related to the Roll:
- f) Period and conditions for the presentation of proposed candidates, determining the minimum number of members' support slips that each proposed candidate must present;
- g) Day, place and timetable of elections, which cannot be less than 12 hours;
- h) Distribution of ballot-boxes among the Electorate;
- i) Form of accrediting electors in accordance with what is established by article
- i) If relevant, the specific regulations for the procedure for using systems using digital supports that replaces the system of ballot slips stipulated in article 48.2, in accordance with the stipulations of the final paragraph of article 48.3.

#### Article 44 Electoral Board

The Club's Board of Directors, or the Management Commission, if relevant, at the same time as agreeing to call elections, will arrange the composition of the Electoral Board, in accordance with the following regulations:

#### **44.1.** Composition

It must be formed by five Club members, elected by draw from all of the members satisfying the conditions stipulated in article 41.

#### **44.2**. Designation

The designation of the members of the Electoral Board will be made by draw at the Club's head office, in an event that will be open for all members to attend. The Secretary will be that of the Board of Directors, who will draft the Minutes. A Notary will be in attendance to bear legal witness.

The draw will be made using the computer procedure detailed in article 26.5 and five members will be elected along with one hundred substitutes.

#### **44.3.** Nature of the position and substitution

The position of member of the Electoral Board is obligatory, honorary and unpaid, and will be incompatible with the status of being a pre-candidate or candidate for election or being a relative of a pre-candidate or candidate, through marriage or blood relationship, up to three times removed. If this incompatibility arises or if the designated person renounces or is unable to exercise the position for any justifiable circumstance, he or she will be replaced by substitutes in the same order in which they were chosen in the draw.

If the persons selected as members or substitute members of the Electoral Board do not come forward to take up their positions or refuse to do so, they will be substituted by Club members designated by the Board of Directors that satisfy the conditions established in article 41.

#### **44.4.** Functions of the Electoral Board:

- a) To learn of and resolve claims presented by members with respect to the electoral roll or lists:
- b) To admit or reject pre-candidates or candidates and their proclamation;
- c) At the behest of any member, pre-candidate or candidate or at their own initiative, to reach a decision regarding any incident that arises during the electoral process that could constitute an infringement or deviation from the electoral code, or affect the principles of publicity, equal opportunities and non-discrimination, and the freedom and secrecy of voting, that are involved in the election process;
- d) To learn of and resolve claims presented by members, pre-candidates or candidacies at any stage of the election process;
- e) Along with the Electoral Table, to publish the result of the elections and produce and present the documentation referred to in article 53.4.

#### 44.5. Constitution of the Electoral Board

Within two calendar days after its designation, and at the Club head offices, the Electoral Board will be constituted and the designated persons will take up their positions.

At the act of constitution, and from the designated persons, the President of the Board will be elected. In the absence of the President, he or she will be substituted by the longest-serving Club members from among the designated persons.

## **44.6.** Functioning of the Electoral Board

The Electoral Board will meet as many times as necessary in order to fulfil its duties. Acting as Secretary of the Electoral Board, with the right to speak but not to vote, will be the Secretary of the Board of Directors, who will draft minutes of all the meetings and will reflect all of the resolutions reached therein. The Minutes will be signed by the Secretary, under approval of the President.

Meetings of the Electoral Board will be called by the Secretary.

Meetings of the Electoral Board will be considered validly constituted if they are attended by, at least, three of the five members. The resolutions passed will be by simple majority among those present and, in the case of a tie, the President will have the casting vote.

The Members' Ombudsman will assist the Electoral Board in exercising its duties and will have the right to attend its meetings, with the right to speak but not to vote.

#### Article 45 Electoral table

The Club's Board of Directors, or the Management Commission, if relevant, at the same time as agreeing to call elections, will arrange for the constitution of the Electoral Table, in accordance with the following regulations:

#### **45.1.** Composition

It will be formed by five Club members, elected by draw from all of the members satisfying the conditions stipulated in article 41.

#### 45.2. Designation

The designation of the members of the Electoral Table will be made by draw at the Club's head office, in an event that will be open for all members to attend. The Secretary will be that of the Board of Directors, who will draft the Minutes. A Notary will be in attendance to bear legal witness.

The draw will be made using the computer procedure detailed in article 26.5, and five members will be elected along with another twenty-five substitutes.

#### **45.3.** Nature of the position and substitution

The position of member of the Electoral Table is obligatory, honorary and unpaid, and will be incompatible with the status of being a pre-candidate or candidate for election or being a relative of a pre-candidate or candidate, through marriage or blood relationship, up to three times removed. If this incompatibility arises or if the designated person renounces or is unable to exercise the position for any justifiable circumstance, he or she will be replaced by substitutes in the same order in which they were chosen in the draw.

If the persons selected as members or substitute members of the Electoral Table do not come forward to take up their positions or refuse to do so, they will be substituted by Club members designated by the Board of Directors that satisfy the conditions established in article 41.

#### 45.4. Functions of the Electoral Table

- a) To preside over and control the voting process with the objective of facilitating the exercising of the right to vote and ensuring the maximum purity of the process:
- b) To designate Club employees or third parties to, by delegation of the Table, oversee the voting process throughout the whole election day and the subsequent count of the different ballot-boxes, and to provide substitutes, cover to allow time for breaks and reinforcements of personnel at times of the highest affluence of voters:
- c) To authorise the Supervisors that, from among Club members, have been nominated by the candidates;

- d) To provide the identifications and passes that the Club establishes to all of the persons involved in the election process;
- e) To control the identification of voting Club members, their condition as electors. the emission of their votes and the correct placing of their voting slips in the corresponding ballot-boxes, through their personal activity throughout the election process, and by communicating the appropriate regulations and instructions to those persons overseeing the different ballot-boxes;
- f) To arrange the start of the counting process and the count of the votes in each ballot-box, and to undertake the counting process and the overall count of all of the ballot-boxes:
- h) To produce the minutes of the voting, specifying:
- Total Club members with the right to vote,
- Total Club members that have voted.
- Total valid votes obtained by each candidacy,
- Total abstentions.
- Total spoiled votes.
- Description of any important incidents that have occurred during the election
- Transcription of any claims produced and the resolutions adopted by the Table,
- Transcription of any statements that either the Candidates or their Supervisors wish to make.
- i) Along with the Electoral Board, to publish the result of the elections, and produce and publish the documentation referred to in 53.4.

#### 45.5. Constitution of the Electoral Table

Within two calendar days after its designation, and at the Club head offices, the Electoral Table will be constituted and the designated persons will take up their positions. At the act of constitution, and from among the designated persons, the President and Secretary of the Electoral Board will be elected.

In the absence of the President, he or she will be substituted by the longest-serving Club member from among the designated persons. The Secretary of the Electoral Board will be assisted in his or her functions by the Secretary of the Board of Directors, who participates in the Table's meetings with the right to speak but not to vote.

The Members' Ombudsman will assist the Electoral Table in exercising its duties and will have the right to attend its meetings, with the right to speak but not to vote.

#### **45.6.** Functioning of the Electoral Table

The Electoral Table will meet as many times as necessary in order to fulfil its duties and, fundamentally, must be present throughout the full election day, from two hours before the ballot-boxes open until after the event announcing the results has concluded. Meetings of the Electoral Table will be called by the Secretary, at the proposal of the President. Meetings of the Electoral Table will be considered validly constituted if they are attended by, at least, three of the five members. The agreements adopted will be by simple majority among those present and, in the case of a tie, the President will have the casting vote.

#### Article 46 Claims concerning election issues

All claims in relation to election issues, apart from those which occur on voting day, must be made to the Electoral Board, within three working days after the event, incident or decision that is the object of the appeal.

The Electoral Board will declare its resolution within three working days of the presentation of the claim. If, following this period, it has not been expressly resolved, an appeals procedure will be opened.

If the claim is produced on the day of the election, due to events, incidents or decisions related to the voting process, the claim will be presented to the Electoral Table, which will resolve the issue during the election day.

The resolutions of the Electoral Board and Electoral Table will immediately be executable.

Against the expressed or presumed resolutions of the Electoral Board or Table, in deciding upon claims, it is possible to make recourse to the Appeals Committee of the Catalan Football Federation within a period of three working days following the notification of the resolution that is the objective of the appeal or of the day on which the claim was understood to have been rejected through no notification of any resolution being expressed within the established period. Against the expressed or presumed resolutions of this Committee, it is possible to make recourse to the Catalan Sports Tribunal within a period of ten working days following the notification of the resolution that is the objective of the recourse or of the day on which the claim was understood to have been rejected through no notification of any resolution being expressed within the established period. This resolution will be considered the final stage of the process of administrative appeal.

All claims on election-related issues must be made in writing and must be signed by the claimant or claimants, indicating their national identity number and their Club membership number.

Claims will be presented to the Club's head office, on the days and at the times when the offices are operational, and the claimants may demand that they be presented with receipt of their presentation.

Notifications of the resolutions of the Electoral Board and Electoral Table will be made directly to the claimants themselves, if they are present, or have previously been invited to the act of notification, or by any means that guarantees they will receive it.

#### Article 47 Electorate and electoral roll

#### **47.1.** Creation.

The Members' Ombudsman, along with the human and material resources in his or her office, is the Club body in charge of forming the electoral roll by creating a file of all of the Club members with the right to vote.

The electoral roll is in permanent creation and is updated on a monthly basis by the Members' Ombudsman by producing a list, which can be controlled and revised, of incoming and outgoing members and other data that is provided by the Club to this body on the same monthly basis.

The electoral roll must list all of the Club members in numerical order and must feature their membership numbers, full name, national ID number or passport number, date of joining the Club and date of birth.

The electoral roll must be made permanently available to the Club members that wish to consult their own personal data at the Members' Ombudsman's office within this office's regular working hours and, if relevant, to make appropriate claims, which will be resolved by the same Members' Ombudsman.

**47.2.** Display, consultations and claims regarding the Electoral Roll during election periods

For each election, the electoral roll to be used will be that valid on the day that the elections are summoned, valid being understood to be that at the end of the day that the elections are summoned. This roll must include the members that satisfy the conditions for the right to vote on election day.

From the day after the constitution of the Electoral Roll, and for a period of five calendar days, the lists of Club members with the right to vote and that make up the electoral roll will be displayed for viewing by Club members at the office of the Members' Ombudsman, stating all of the information referred to in article 47.1 except for the national ID or passport number.

Before being shown to the public, the electoral roll must have been presented to the Electoral Board, who will identify it and confirm it by signature. Minutes will be drafted of this act of presentation and confirmation, which will include the number of pages that make up the list and the total number of Club members included in it. The Electoral Board may demand a duplicate of the list of members, which will remain in its custody.

During the period of public display of the electoral roll, any Club member may consult it and demand any relevant clarifications.

Consultations must be made within the normal working hours of the Members' Ombudsman's office.

During the period that the lists are displayed, Club members may make claims regarding omissions or incorrect inclusions in the roll, or request any rectifications of errors they have observed. All requests or claims must be made in writing to the Electoral Board. The periods for resolution by the Electoral Board and for appeals against it will be those indicated in article 46.

#### **47.3.** Passing of the definitive electoral roll.

Once Stage IV of the election process (display of the electoral roll) is over, within the following three calendar days, having dealt with any claims or observations made by the Club members, the Electoral Board will approve the definitive electoral roll of FC Barcelona Club members that will be granted elector status.

Minutes will be drafted of this act of approval, and the Electoral Board will proceed by signing it to authenticate and confirm the definitive list of Club members forming the electorate. The minutes will record the definitive number of pages that make up the roll and the total number of Club members forming the electorate.

This list, which will remain in the custody of the Electoral Board in the Members' Ombudsman Office, will be the definitive electoral roll and may not undergo any amendment for the remainder of the election process.

The definitive electoral roll, with all of the information referred to in article 47.2, shall be provided to the candidatures, who may request a copy from the moment when they are announced under the terms stipulated in article 48.5. Under no circumstances may a copy of the definitive electoral roll be requested before the candidature is announced.

#### Article 48 Candidacies

#### **48.1.** Periods for presentation

From the days after the definitive approval of the roll by the Electoral Board, and for a period of seven working days, candidacies for the FC Barcelona Board of Directors can be presented. The time limit for presenting candidacies will be at 21 hours on the seventh working day.

48.2. Nature, form and composition of candidacies and requirements for presentation

Candidacies will be closed and subject to block voting.

Candidacies must be made up of a number of candidates no lower than fourteen and no higher than twenty-one, headed by a candidate for President.

No candidacy may include any outgoing President that has just completed a second consecutive term of office as established in article 34.2.

Candidacies must be presented to the Electoral Board, in writing and in duplicate form, and must contain the following details:

- Lists of the names and surnames of the candidates and, along with each name, the candidate's signature to accredit their conformity. All of the candidates must satisfy the conditions established in article 42:
- Photocopies of both sides of the candidates' membership cards and of their identification documents;
- Photocopy of documentation accrediting the Catalan civil residency status of the candidate for the Presidency.

In the candidacy, no reference or list will be included of the different Board positions, apart from that of President, which will correspond to the candidate at the top of the list. If the members of the candidacy consider it convenient, they can attach a list of the biographical details and merits of the aspiring candidates.

Along with the candidacy, presentation must also be made of the support slips signed by Club members and the testimony of their commitment to provide the guarantee referred to in section 48.3.

## 48.3. Support of Club members for candidacies

1. To be proclaimed by the Electoral Board, candidacies must have been proposed by a number of Club members no lower than fifty per cent (50%) of the delegates that make up the Assembly.

- 2. To accredit this support, each candidacy must, on presenting itself as such, provide the accrediting support slips in accordance with the following regulations:
- a) Club members may only support one single candidacy. All of the slips signed by the same Club member who has supported more than one candidacy will be considered void:
- b) All Club members signing a support slip must be included in the definitive electoral roll approved by the Electoral Board, which should be made in accordance with the stipulations of article 47.1. In this regard, members that satisfy the conditions to exercise the right to vote on the day of the elections and are included in the electoral roll may sign a support slip;
- c) The slips must be filled in using the official form that will be published by the Club for each election process and which will contain, at least, the following characteristics:
- It will bear the name and crest of FC Barcelona and a reference:
- In a clear position and in legible writing, it will feature the name of the Club member proposing the candidacy, along with the declaration of being an adult and not being incapacitated, and having been a member for at least one year at the moment that the elections are called, and not to have their membership suspended;
- Also printed in a clear position on the official slip published by the Club will be the name of the candidate for the Presidency leading the candidacy;
- In a space on the slip will be attached a photographic or photostatic copy of the national identity document or equivalent in the case of foreigners, driving licence or passport of the Club member giving their support;

- Another clear space will display the membership number, the identity document number and, finally, the date on which the proposal is made and a signature:
- A space in the top right hand corner of the slip will be left for correlatively numbering the proposals presented by candidacies;
- d) From the beginning of stage IV of the election process, aspiring candidates to the Presidency of the Club may request that the Electoral Board present them with official support slips with their name printed on. This application will be made in writing, indicating the number of slips ordered. The Electoral Board will provide the slips ordered within a period of 36 hours, which, up to twice the number required to be proclaimed as a candidate, will be free. Any that are ordered above this limit will be paid for by the applicant;
- e) The support slips provided by each candidacy must be numbered and ordered by membership numbers, from lowest to highest;
- f) The Electoral Board will acknowledge receipt of the candidacies that have been presented to it within the established period, and will sign a copy of this acknowledgement. The Secretary, under approval by the President, and following the necessary verifications, will provide official accreditation of the number of support slips provided by the candidacy, specifying the day and time when they were presented.
  - A copy of this official accreditation will be provided to the aspiring presidential candidates:
- g) Strictly for purposes of collecting support slips for proposed candidacies from members, on the day that support slips are collected, informative, promotional or propaganda activities in this regard are permitted. The Club must ensure that these activities are conducted under equal conditions.
  - The Board of Directors may substitute the system explained in the previous section 2 (support slips) with a digital support system, which will be regulated by a specific regulation that will be adapted to the principles reported herein for the system of support slips, and which must be published along with the announcement referred to in article 43.
- **48.4.** Commitment to providing a bank guarantee if so required by the law In order to be proclaimed by the Electoral Board, each candidacy must provide a document signed by all of its components in which the same declare their commitment to act as guarantors in the case of being electors, in accordance with the disposition of article 35 of these Statutes and the seventh Additional Disposition of State Law 10/1990 and dispositions that develop it, if jurisdictional regulations demand this requisite.

#### 48.5. Proclamation of the candidacies.

Within the three working days following the end of the period for presenting candidacies, the Electoral Board must ensure that the candidacies presented and the Club members proposing them satisfy the conditions demanded by these Statutes, that they have complied with the procedures and time limits of this stage of the election process, that the candidacies have received the support of a minimum number of Club members as demanded in section 48.3 of this article, and they have provided the commitment to acting as guarantors referred to in section 48.4 of this article. Especially, the Electoral Board will proceed by verifying the validity of the support slips provided by the candidates, and has the faculty to request the candidates and Club members themselves to provide the necessary details to verify their authenticity. Each proposed candidacy may designate one observer per table to oversee the validation of support slips.

When a candidacy includes one or more Club members who do not satisfy the conditions for being eligible, the candidacy will remain valid with respect to the other candidates as long as the invalidated person is not the candidate for the Presidency and the total number of remaining candidates is the same or more than the minimum requirement of fourteen. If the aspiring President is declared invalidated, or the number of candidates is lower than fourteen, the entire candidacy will be declared invalidated.

Once this verification process is complete, the Electoral Board will proceed by proclaiming the candidates that have the right to participate in the elections through having satisfied all of the requirements demanded by the Statutes, and will reject those candidacies that have failed to satisfy said requirements.

The proclamation or rejection of candidates, or individual members of the same, as well as the number of valid support slips collected from members will be reflected in the Minutes that will be drafted by the Electoral Board.

Reasons for refusing candidates will be offered. Each presidential candidate will be notified of the certification of the minutes.

The claims and appeals detailed in article 46 may be lodged against the resolution by the Electoral Board to refuse the proclamation of a candidacy or any of the members of a candidacy.

Within two working days of the proclamation of the candidacies, the Electoral Board will provide a certification of the Minutes of the proclamation to the President of the Catalan Football Federation and the Club's Board of Directors or the Management Commission.

## Article 49 Proclamation of a single candidacy

If there is only one candidacy, or only one candidacy remains valid, the Electoral Board will proceed to directly declare that candidacy the winner, thus concluding the election process, and the members will be proclaimed elected.

## Article 50 Inexistence of candidacies or invalidity of all those presented

If there is no candidacy or none of those presented are valid, the Electoral Board will communicate this to the Club's Board of Directors or Management Commission. who must call new elections within a maximum period of three months.

## Article 51 Election campaign

From the day after the candidacies are proclaimed, and for seven working days, the candidates may host informative, promotional or propaganda events.

The Electoral Board has the competence to resolve all applications or claims made by the candidates in relation to the election campaign and will ensure that, in their statements and actions, all of the candidates demonstrate the respect that their opponents deserve.

The Club's Board of Directors will facilitate the candidates' undertaking of their election campaigns and put the Club's facilities at their disposal, as long as this is compatible with its sporting activities and acquired commitments.

The Members' Ombudsman will process all of the information and publicity that the candidates wish to address to the Club members, via the services of the Members' Ombudsman Office. Requests for such procedures will be made in writing to the Office, which will inform the candidates of the cost of the service and the possibility of facilitating it. Any expenses generated by these services will be charged to the candidates requesting them.

The Electoral Board will fairly resolve any conflicts that could arise when the candidates coincide in requesting the same Club services or facilities on incompatible dates, and will ensure that the principles of equal opportunities are maintained with respect to Club services or facilities.

#### Article 52 Day of reflection

The calendar day remaining between stage VIII (end of the election campaign) and stage X (holding the vote) will be reserved for reflection and evaluation of the proposals that have been made by the different candidacies.

From midnight of that day, the candidacies are forbidden from partaking in all public activities and may not, either directly or indirectly, perform acts considered part of the election campaign, such as placing posters, publishing or emitting propaganda via the media, making statements or giving interviews.

## Article 53 Votes. Count. Proclamation of winning candidacy. Notification and publication of the electoral documentation

**53.1.** Votes

Votes will be issued on the day and at the time and place established in the call for elections.

The voting slips will be printed by the Club using the same format, paper and colour for all of the candidacies.

Voting slips, other than the option of including the club crest and a reference to the specific election process, may only feature the name of the Presidential candidate of each candidacy.

The voting slip will be placed by each elector in an envelope printed by the Club and which will bear a reference to that specific election process.

The electors must accredit themselves by presenting their national identity document or equivalent in the case of foreigners, passport or driving licence.

The electors will hand those people running the election tables, which will be arranged in the alphabetical order of the names of the Club members, with the envelope containing the voting slip and the latter will place it in the ballot-box.

Only Club members whose names are recorded in the definitive electoral roll approved by the Electoral Board may exercise the right to vote.

The Electoral Table will preside over and control the voting day, and will resolve all incidents or claims that might arise, in accordance with what is stipulated by article 45.

The Members' Ombudsman, on election day, will assist the Electoral Table in exercising its duties in accordance with the stipulations of article 45.5 and will, especially, helped by personnel from his or her office, assist the different tables with all matters relating to the electoral roll.

Accredited observers on the election tables must, separately, be able to access the electoral roll of members with the right to vote, in accordance with the information stipulated in article 47.1.

#### **53.2.** Count.

Once the voting period has ended, the Electoral Table will arrange the start of the count of each ballot-box and the overall total for all the ballot-boxes, which should reflect the following data:

- Total Club members with the right to vote,
- Total Club members that have voted,
- Total valid votes obtained by each candidacy,
- Total abstentions.
- Total spoiled votes.

All voting slips not printed by the Club or that contain additions or comments will be considered spoiled. Also, all voting slips not presented inside envelopes printed by the Club will be considered spoiled.

If an envelope contains more than one voting slip voting for the same candidacy, this will only count as one vote.

If an envelope contains more than one voting slip voting for different candidacies or that are abstentions, these will all be considered spoiled. Abstentions are considered to be either an envelope containing no voting slip or one or more voting slips voting for no candidate.

This data, and that mentioned in article 45.4, section h), will be reflected in the minutes that will be drafted by the Electoral Table concerning the voting day, and which will be signed by all of its members.

## **53.3.** Proclamation of the winning candidacy

Once the voting has concluded and the Minutes have been drafted and signed by the Electoral Table, the proclamation of the winning candidacy will commence.

The winner will be the candidacy that has obtained the most valid votes.

If there is a tie between two or more candidacies that have obtained the most votes, no candidacy will be proclaimed the winner and a new round of voting must be held involving the tied candidacies, on a new date to be set by the Club's Board of Directors or the Management Commission, within the following seven calendar days. The date of the new vote will be announced in the form determined by article 43.2. Until the new vote is held, the Electoral Board and Electoral Table will maintain their duties and stage VIII (Election Campaign) will not be restarted. If there should once again be a tie after the second vote, a third vote will be called, and as many successive polls as are necessary until one candidacy obtains a majority.

The proclamation will be made jointly by the Electoral Board and the Electoral Table at the end of the voting day by publicly reading the Minutes of the count and officially declaring the elections closed.

**53.4.** Notification of the results and provision of the electoral documentation Within three days after the end of the elections, the Electoral Table will provide the Club's Board of Directors or Management Commission and the registers referred to in article 8, with certification of the Minutes of the vote count and the proclamation of the winners. The Electoral Board and the Electoral Table will be the depositaries, at the Club head offices, of the minutes and documents relating to the election process, as long as any claims or appeals persist in relation to the election that have yet to be resolved by federations or administrations. If there are no such circumstances or from the moment that the appeals have been resolved administratively, they will have thirty days to provide the Board of Directors with an ordered dossier of all of the minutes and documents relating to the election process, accompanied by a list of the documents contained within.

Minutes must be drafted of the presentation of these documents and signed by the Electoral Board, the Electoral Table and the Board of Directors. This act will officially conclude the duties of the Electoral Board and Electoral Table, which will henceforth he dissolved

## **Article 54 Taking office and communications**

If the election process has been the consequence of the natural termination of the term in office of the previous Board of Directors, the newly elected Board must take office on the date of July 1 after the elections and the members remaining from the previous Board will immediately vacate their positions.

If the electoral process was initiated by the Management Committee because of early termination of the mandate of the previous Board, in accordance with the terms of article 35.4, the new Board elected shall take possession within ten calendar days following the date of the election.

In both circumstances, for computation of the duration of the mandate, article 34 will apply.

If the law requires a bank guarantee to be provided, prior to taking office, the newly elected Board must have formalised the bank guarantee in the manner required by current regulations. If this is not the case, the Board will not take office and this governing body will be considered vacant, and a Management Commission will automatically be constituted to call a new election process.

The new Board will take office at an extraordinary session of the Board of Directors, which will be attended by the outgoing Board or Management Commission and the newly elected Board, and which may also be attended, in the capacity of witnesses, by representatives of Governments, Administrations, Federations or Associations.

Once constituted, the new Board will notify its composition to the registers referred to in article 8.

The President of the outgoing Board of Directors or Management Commission, or any member of the same delegated by him or her, may intervene at the first ordinary General Assembly that is held to explain the liquidation of the previous financial year and propose it for approval.

## SECTION 5 VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE

#### Article 55 Vote of no confidence

**55.1.** Subjects of a vote of no confidence

All of the members of the Board of Directors are passive subjects of a vote of no confidence. A vote of no confidence may be requested against all of the Board or some of its members.

The Club members that satisfy the conditions to be an elector under terms of article 41 are the active members of a vote of no confidence.

#### **55.2.** Petitioners of a vote of no confidence

The calling of a vote of no confidence can be requested by 15% per cent of the Club members that satisfy the conditions to be an elector as established by article 41. To calculate the 15% of the Club membership, the total number of Club members with the right to vote will be considered to be that existing on the day that the vote of no confidence is announced under the terms established in article 55.3, section a). For these purposes, the electoral roll will be closed on the day of the announcement of the vote of no confidence.

## **55.3.** Form and procedure for requesting a vote of no confidence

- a) Before formally presenting the request for a vote of no confidence, those leading the motion must write to the Board announcing their proposal, with a list of the members of the Board that they wish to subject to the vote of no confidence. The same written notice will request the Board to provide the official form for slips justifying the necessary support of Club members or delegates;
- b) The Board of Directors, within a period of no more than 5 working days, will supply the petitioners with the support slips, which will be of the following characteristics:
- They will bear the name and crest of FC Barcelona and the following title: "Support slip to appeal for a vote of no confidence against...", and will describe the names of the members of the Board of Directors affected, or in such a case, the totality of the Board;
- In a space, and in legible lettering, will appear the name of the Club member supporting the request, with a declaration that he or she is adult, not incapacitated, has been a Club member for a minimum of one year and does not have a suspended membership;
- In another space on the slip will appear that person's membership number and identity document number, his or her full signature and the date;
- In another space will be attached a photocopy of both sides of the Club member's identity document.
  - The number of slips provided by the Club will be double that required to support the vote. If this limit is surpassed, the promoters of the vote of no confidence may order more slips, and they will be supplied, but at the promoters' own cost.
- c) The promoters of the vote of no confidence will have a limit of 14 days, counted from the day after the one on which the slips were put at their disposition, to present their formal request to the Board of Directors, which will declare the motive and the names of the members of the Board that are to be subjected to the vote of no confidence, attaching the support slips to this.
- d) Upon the expiration of the term for the signature collection, the promoters of the vote of no confidence must deliver them to the Club in order to proceed with the counting, validation and publicize the results. In the event that the promoters do not reach the minimum number of signatures required by the deadline, the Club will proceed with the immediate destruction of the support slips delivered within a maximum period of five days, and before Notary.

#### **55.4.** Constitution of the Table for the Vote of No Confidence

Within ten working days of the formal presentation of the request, the Table of the Vote of No Confidence will be constituted, which will be the body in charge of promoting and controlling the full process and which will be made up of the following people:

- The first two Club members to have signed the petition;
- Two members of the Board of Directors, designated by the Board itself;
- A delegate from the Catalan Football Federation, designated by the Federation itself, who must act as President.

For the functions and duties of this Table, the regulations included in these Statutes for the Electoral Table and Electoral Board will be analogically applied, including the references therein to resources or appeals against its decisions.

Once the Table of the Vote of No Confidence has been constituted, it shall proceed, within a maximum of 10 working days, by verifying that the request complies with the requisites to which it is subjected and, especially, that there is adequate motive and sufficient support among the membership or delegates. The Table may invalidate support that is insufficiently accredited and may make any necessary investigations to ascertain authenticity.

Once the verification is over, the Table must make a statement regarding the admissibility of the vote of no confidence. In no case will the procedure for a vote of no confidence be admitted if motivated by events prior to the election of the censured member or members of the Board of Directors or for causes unrelated to the management of the Club.

If all of the requisites are complied with, the request will be declared admitted and Club's Board of Directors will be ordered to call a vote, which must be held within a period of no less than 10 working days or no more than 20, counted from that on which the Table provided notice of the requirement.

If the requisites have not all been complied with, the request will be rejected, on well-motivated grounds, and the two first signatories will be informed of this.

#### **55.5.** The voting procedure.

The call for voting will be publicly announced by the Board of Directors by means of the method indicated in article 43.2 of these Statutes at a minimum notice of 5 working days.

The voting procedure, count and publication of the results will be regulated, analogically, by the regulations indicated in article 53, and the duties bestowed upon the Electoral Board and Electoral Table will be assumed by the Table of the Vote of No Confidence.

Only members with elector status in accordance with the stipulations of article 41 and that are included in the electoral roll that closed on the day of the announcement of the vote of no confidence may participate in said vote of no confidence.

Once the voting has concluded, the table will count the votes in accordance with what is stipulated by article 53.2, and will announce the result. The vote of no confidence will only be accepted if two thirds or more of the votes are in its favour, as long as the number of these is a minimum of 10 per cent of the members of the Club.

The members of the Board of Directors that lose a vote of no confidence will automatically be removed from their positions, in accordance with the stipulations of articles 35 1 or 35 2

If the vote of no confidence does not obtain that majority, it cannot be called again for the same motives until one year has passed, counted from the date on which the vote was held.

## SECTION 6 COLLABORATING GOVERNING, ADMINISTRATIVE, MANAGEMENT AND ADVISORY BODIES

#### Article 56 The FC Barcelona Senate

The FC Barcelona Senate is a collegiate and honorary body of an advisory nature made up of the first thousand Club members.

The Senate's duty is to advise and counsel on all issues subjected to it by the President and the Board of Directors.

The Senate will meet at the behest of the President whenever necessary. Meetings of the Senate may be ordinary or extraordinary. In whatever case, the Senate must call an ordinary meeting in the second quarter of each calendar year. Other meetings will be considered extraordinary.

The Senate must be called by agreement of the Board of Directors, who will establish an Agenda. Senate sessions will be chaired by the Club President, and the Secretary will be that of the Club, who will draft the Minutes.

Senate decisions will be made by simple majority from among those present. Voting is personal and non-delegable.

The nomination of an FC Barcelona Senator will be reflected in a diploma that will be presented to the Senator.

The status of Senator must be identified on the member's membership card, with the impression of the word "Senator" on the obverse of the same.

#### Article 57 The Members' Ombudsman

The Members' Ombudsman is a single-person body that is independent of the Board of Directors, and whose duty is to assist, advise and defend the rights of Club members in terms of their relationship with the Club, and also to prepare and update the Club's membership list.

In exercising his or her duties, the Members' Ombudsman may demand of the club's governing body any collaboration or assistance required, and the Club is obliged to provide this.

#### **57.1.** Duties.

The duties of the Members' Ombudsman are as follows:

- a) To defend and protect the rights of Club members, and to learn of and resolve any claims addressed to him or her, which must receive a response. He or she may also attend all meetings of the Disciplinary Commission, by request of the member affected, with the right to speak but not to vote;
- b) To act as an intermediary, resolving by consensus any conflicts arising between Club members and the Board of Directors, from which he or she may gather whatever information he or she feels convenient;
- c) To present the Board of Directors with any suggestions he or she feels to be appropriate:
- d) To provide the Board of Directors within five days of the end of the financial year with an annual report of his or her actions in reference to each financial year, and present the same to the Ordinary General Assembly;
- e) To autonomously manage, in order to efficiently comply with his or her duties, the organisation and functioning of his or her office, which will be coordinated and managed using the material and human resources required which, at his own behest, must be supplied by the Board of Directors;
- f) To permanently and continuously produce, through his or her office, the membership list and electoral roll, and update this monthly;
- g) To provide Club members with the dispatches supplied to him or her by different candidates during the election period, including in the stages of presenting candidacies, and likewise what is supplied by the petitioners of a vote of no confidence:
- h) During election periods, to assist the Electoral Board and Electoral Table in exercising their duties exclusively in relation with articles 44.4 and 45.4., especially in matters of claims, rights and duties of Club members and candidates, and in relation to the electoral roll, always seeking to ensure exact compliance with data contained within the same;
- i) To attend both Ordinary and Extraordinary General Club Assemblies, with the right to speak but not to vote.

## **57.2.** Designation

The position of Members' Ombudsman must be granted to a Club member of recognised prestige, and who satisfies the same circumstances that are demanded by article 42 to be elected a member of the Board of Directors.

In order to be designated Members' Ombudsman, a person may not have been a member of the Board of Directors or have ever had a professional or business relation with the Club, either directly or by means an intermediary. Neither can the designated Members' Ombudsman be a relative by blood or marriage up to four times removed of any member of the Board of Directors nor a Club employee.

Once designated, the Members' Ombudsman may not establish any type of professional or business relation with the Club throughout the entire mandate of the Board of Directors that proposed them.

Their designation of the Members' Ombudsman will be made by proposal of the Board of Directors and must be ratified by the General Assembly by a majority of three fifths of those in attendance.

The period of the Members' Ombudsman mandate will begin on the day that the Board of Directors agrees to the proposal, which must be when this person shall start exercising his or her functions.

#### **57.3.** Term of office

The duration of the Members' Ombudsman term of office is five years, and this person may be re-elected to the position for another identical period following the necessary ratification by the General Assembly under the same terms as the original designation.

If the end of a Members' Ombudsman term of office coincides with an election period at the Club, the Members' Ombudsman will continue to exercise his or her duties until a successor has been nominated by appointment of the new Board of Directors.

#### 57.4. Cessation.

The Members' Ombudsman will be removed from his or her position for any of the following causes:

- a) Conclusion of the term for which he or she was nominated;
- b) Resignation;
- c) Death or incapacity;
- d) Loss of club membership status;
- e) By agreement of the General Assembly, in the case of notorious negligence.

In the latter of these cases, the cessation must be accepted by a majority of three fifths of those present and the Members' Ombudsman has the right to speak before the vote. In all cases, the Board of Directors will proceed by designating a new Members' Ombudsman within a period of one month, who must be ratified later and nominally by the General Assembly by the method established in article 57.2.

#### Article 58 Financial commission

The Financial Commission is a collegiate body of an advisory nature made up of six Club members of renowned prestige and experience in the management of finances and capital resources, one of which should be delegated by the Board of Directors from among its members.

The positions of the Financial Commission are honorary and the members must satisfy the same circumstances as demanded by article 42 for being a member of the Board of Directors.

The designation of the five remaining Club members on the Financial Commission will be as proposed by the Board of Directors, and must be ratified by the General Assembly. Of these five members, the Board of Directors will nominate a President, a Vice President and a Secretary.

The term of office of the members of the Financial Commission will coincide with the mandate of the Board of Directors established in article 34. The cessation and suspension of this Commission or, if relevant, temporary cover of vacancies that may arise during the term of office, will be governed by the regulations stipulated in article 35 of these Statutes, in reference to the Board of Directors. The members of the Financial Commission may not form part of the Board of Directors during the mandate for which they have been proposed.

The duties of the Financial Commission are:

- a) To monitor external or internal audits commissioned by the Board of Directors;
- b) To provide reports on matters of its competence as requested by the Board of Directors:
- c) To produce and provide to the Board of Directors, prior to the holding of an Assembly, a report on the Club's financial situation and the issues in this area that it considers relevant for each financial year. If the annual audit report contains unqualified uncertainties, this report will include an appraisal:
- d) To provide preliminary reports concerning the proposals that the Board of Directors presents to the General Assembly regarding matters referred to in this same article, article 30, sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 13 and article 66;
- e) Likewise, the Financial Commission shall also advise the Board of Directors by producing reports and recommendations on issues in its competence that it considers relevant to the Board of Directors, for which purposes it shall have access to any financial information on the Club that it considers necessary in order to exercise this function.

The operations of the Financial Commission will be governed by what is established by article 36 for the Board of Directors, wherever applicable.

The Board of Directors must be made aware of all reports and recommendations by the Financial Commission, which shall be non-binding in nature.

#### **Article 59 Disciplinary commission**

The Disciplinary Commission is a collegiate body with the duty of exercising and applying, by delegation of the Board of Directors, the disciplinary authority bestowed upon it in accordance with the stipulations of Chapter VII of these Statutes.

The Disciplinary Commission is made up of five members, one of which should be delegated by the Board of Directors from among its members, and who will act as President. The other four will be designated by the Board of Directors from among Club members with law degrees of renowned experience and prestige, which satisfy the circumstances demanded by article 42 for being a member of the Board of Directors.

The President of the Disciplinary Commission will nominate a Vice President and a Secretary. All of the positions are honorary.

The term of office of the members of the Disciplinary Commission will coincide with the mandate of the Board of Directors established in article 34. Cessation, suspension or covering of vacancies on the Disciplinary Commission will be freely made by the Board of Directors.

The functioning of the Disciplinary Commission will be governed by what is established by article 36 for the Board of Directors, wherever applicable.

#### **Article 60 Top Management personnel**

The Top Management personnel will act by delegation of the Board of Directors in duties of administering and managing the Club and for executing the agreements of the Board of Directors and other collegiate bodies with duties delegated by the Board of Directors. The designation and cessation of Top Management personnel, as well as the faculties bestowed upon them at all times, and the awarding of appropriate notary authorities, are the responsibility of the Board of Directors. All of the faculties and authorities granted to Top Management personnel must be reflected in the minutes of the agreements of the Board of Directors.

#### **Article 60 Bis Ethics and Transparency Committee**

The Ethics and Transparency Committee is a consultative collegiate body whose function is to ensure the values of the Club and guarantee their proper application, in accordance with the provisions of its operating regulations.

It is made up of five members appointed by the Board of Directors. One of them has to be elected from among its members and will be the one who presides over it. The other four must be appointed by the Board of Directors from among members of the Club with recognised personal and professional prestige and with experience in their field of action.

The President of the Committee may appoint a Vice-President and a Secretary.

All positions are honorary.

The term of office of the members of the Ethics and Transparency Committee must coincide with the term of office of the Board of Directors provided for in Article

34. The cessation, suspension and covering of vacancies of the members of the Committee must be made freely by the Board of Directors.

The functioning of the Ethics and Transparency Committee will be governed by an operating regulation approved by the Board of Directors.

#### CHAPTER 05

## **DOCUMENTARY SYSTEM**

#### Article 61 Club Books

FC Barcelona will maintain the following Books and Registers:

#### **61.1.** Register of Members

This will consist of a computerised register detailing, in order of admission, the Club memhers

The Register of Members will include the following details:

- Name and surnames of each Member.
- National identity document number or passport,
- Date of birth.
- Home address.
- Digital address and telephone number
- Date of joining,
- Date of cessation.
- Seats in the Camp Nou or other Club facilities allocated to the person,
- Observations.

The remarks section will include the following details:

- Position that the Club member has held on the Board of Directors or collaborating bodies referred to in Section 6 of Chapter IV, as well as the duration of the term in office:
- Condition or nomination as delegate and duration of term in office;
- Firm disciplinary sanctions that have been imposed on the Member;
- Suspension of membership and duration of the same

The Register of Members will be numbered from the longest-serving to the newest. Each financial year the numerical order of Members will be updated in consideration of any cessations that have occurred.

## **61.2.** Minutes Book of the General Assembly

This book contains, chronologically, the Minutes of the meetings of the Club General Assemblies

The minutes will detail:

- Place and date of the meeting;
- Number in attendance:
- Summary of the issues dealt with;
- Agreements made, with reference to the procedure employed to reach those decisions

The Minutes will be drafted by the Club Secretary, under approval of the President, and must be passed by three delegate members designated by the Assembly.

#### **61.3.** Minutes Book of the Board of Directors

This Book contains, chronologically, the Minutes of the meetings of the Club's Board of Directors

The minutes will detail:

- Place and date of the meeting;
- Number in attendance;
- Summary of the issues dealt with;
- Agreements made, with reference to the procedure employed to reach those decisions.

The Minutes will be drafted by the Club Secretary, under approval of the President, and must be passed by the following Board meeting.

**61.4.** Minutes Books of the Bodies Collaborating with the General Assembly and Board of Directors

The Bodies collaborating with the General Assembly and the Board of Directors will maintain their respective Minutes Books. The Minutes, which will detail the circumstances reflected in the previous section, will be drafted by the Secretary of each Body, under approval of the President.

#### 61.5. Accounts Books.

The Club's accounts will be recorded in the relevant books, which will state the capital resources, specific rights and obligations, the state of income and expenses, and details of their origin, investment or destination.

Concerning income from donations, if relevant, the purpose for which they are destined must be specified, with reference to the donation document and the minutes of the acceptance of the donation by the Club body with competence in that area.

#### 61.6. Auxiliary Books

The Club will maintain all those auxiliary books that are considered appropriate for the best compliance with its objectives.

#### **Article 62 Authentication**

All of the Minutes Books of the Governing Bodies and the Accounts Books must be processed in such a way as to guarantee their authenticity in the manner stipulated by current legislation.

## Article 63 Privacy of personal data in club books and files

As a club that is committed to data privacy and protection, FC Barcelona processes personal data in accordance with the requirements of current regulations, in order to comply with the statutory, social and professional purposes of its activity.

To guarantee the correct fulfilment of its obligations and to protect the rights of the interested parties, FC Barcelona shall have a Data Protection Delegate, as well as a control structure aimed at ensuring that all data is processed in a legal, fair and transparent manner, thereby guaranteeing that data is always collected for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes, limiting its use to the purposes declared at all times. In addition, the club shall ensure that data is processed only when it is necessary, always taking into account the purposes of data processing and legal obligations that may be applicable at any time.

Likewise, FC Barcelona has implanted appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect the rights and freedoms of the interested parties, thereby guaranteeing adequate data security, including protection against unauthorized or illicit processing, and against loss, destruction or accidental damage.

In order to answer any doubts or queries that interested parties may have, as well as for these parties to exercise their rights of access, rectification, deletion or portability, or request limitation or opposition to any usage, they may contact the Club by email to proteccio.dades@fcbarcelona.cat, or in person at the Barcelona Supporter Services Office (OAB), as well as contact the Data Protection Delegate at dpo@fcbarcelona.cat

## **FINANCIAL SYSTEM**

#### **Article 64 Annual Accounts**

The annual accounts, which the Board of Directors will present to the Assembly, will contain:

- The balance and profits and loss accounts, in such a way that they clearly indicate the situation of the Club's finances and capital resources;
- A Financial report for the financial year, which explains the most significant variations or incidents in relation to the budget.

## **Article 65 Auditing**

The annual accounts detailed in the previous article will be revised by Accounts Auditors habilitated for this duty and designated by the Board of Directors. An audit will also be made of the total or part of the annual accounts, at the request of those who legally have the right to request this and at their own cost.

All audits that are made in accordance with this article will be presented to the General Assembly.

## Article 66 Right of Disposal of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors has the full faculties to manage the Club's finances, under the limitations established by applicable legal dispositions and the following dispositions of these Statutes:

- a) The Board of Directors may not spend on operating costs a global amount of more than 20% of the overall amount budgeted, regardless of the availability of this amount through income unforeseen by the budget, or that exceed expectations;
- b) The Board of Directors may acquire, guarantee or transfer money in the form of credit or loans; or may issue transferable debt securities, up to an amount no higher than 10% of the annual income budget;
- c) The Board of Directors may issue transferable debt securities or gain income from credit or loans of an amount no greater than 10% of the annual income budget.

In order to make payments that exceed these limits, the Board of Directors will require the approval of the General Assembly, which shall be by simple majority of those in attendance in cases of letter a) and by 2/3 majority of those in attendance in the cases of letters b) and c), following a report, in both cases, issued by the Financial Commission.

#### Article 67 Net worth balance

The Board of Directors is obliged to maintain the Club's net assets, and in this regard must make the best effort to manage them as will be reflected in the formulation of the annual audited accounts without exceptions, showing a positive net worth balance after tax. If, despite this regulation, the liquidation of a financial year should show losses approved by the General Assembly, the Board of Directors must compensate for the amount lost in its operating results for the following two years.

Likewise, the Board of Directors must make the best effort to manage the Club with a net debt that is never greater than the amount resulting from multiplying by two the EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortization). Despite this regulation, if the debt ratio is higher as a result of the liquidation of a previous financial year that is accepted by the General Assembly, the Board of Directors is obliged to re-establish the net worth balance in the following two financial years to achieve the aforesaid debt ratio. Compliance with this ratio must be expressly certified in the Club's annual audit report.

If there is a change of Board of Directors during a process of establishing the net worth balance in any of the aforesaid circumstances, the new Board of Directors that has come into power will be bound for all purposes as long as the President formed part of the departing Board of Directors that was affected by the situation.

Manifest failure to comply with either of the two regulations stipulated in this article due to two financial years having passed since the one in which the non-compliance first occurred, without the net worth balance having been achieved, in either of the two circumstances, shall be cause for the immediate and advance dissolution of the Board of Directors, which will be replaced by a Managing Commission, whose composition, functions and competences shall be those described in article 35.4.

In order to calculate the net worth balance referred to in this article with respect to overall debt, sections corresponding to the finance of extraordinary investment projects in material property to be used for the Club's sporting and ordinary activities shall not be included, for these will be the object a specific and independent finance plan.

# DISCIPLINARY AND JURISDICTIONAL SYSTEM

## Article 68 Disciplinary system

The Club has the authority to correct infringements of sporting or associative discipline that are produced on occasion of or as a consequence of the undertaking of its activities. The exercise of this authority, the disciplinary procedure, the classification and characterisation of the infringements, and the applicable sanctions, are the subject of this Chapter.

## Article 69 Scope of sanctionable infringements

The disciplinary infringements subjected to the Club's disciplinary authority are classified into three areas:

## **69.1.** Infringements related to the rules of play

These are actions or omissions contravening the rules of play made by players, coaching staff or sportspeople that participate in sports competitions, games or events organised internally or socially by the Club.

Expressly excluded from this group and the sanctioning authority of the Club are infringements of the rules of play made by players, coaching staff or sportspeople that participate in sports competitions, games or events organised by Federations, Associations of Clubs or other local, regional, state or international bodies, in the regulations of which provisions are already made for regulations and disciplinary authority concerning infringements of the rules of play. In these cases, the disciplinary authority will be that of the Organising Body, in accordance with the rules regulating it, without affecting the condition that, should the infringement be one of sporting conduct, the infringement may also be subjected to the Club's disciplinary authority.

## **69.2.** Infringements related to sporting conduct

These are actions or omissions that contravene the general regulations for sporting discipline and coexistence involving Club members, players, members of coaching staff and sportspeople.

## **69.3.** Infringements related to membership conduct

These are the actions or omissions made by Club members that contravene the legal associative regime, the Statutes and agreements of the General Assembly or the Board of Directors.

For this purpose, it will be understood that the members of the organ of government of a Supporters Club are subject to the responsibilities bestowed upon them by applicable regulations and also those derived from the Supporters Club Regulations approved by the Club at any given time.

In the circumstance of assignment of a season ticket or document permitting access to sports events organised by the Club, or in which the Club participates, it is understood that the assigning member, as a necessary collaborator in having transferred their season ticket or other document, is responsible for possible infringements committed by the assignee regardless of the personal responsibilities for the same.

These provisions will be excluded in the event that the assignment is made in favour of or through the Club.

#### **Article 70 Disciplinary authority**

In the three areas to which the Club's disciplinary correction is subjected, the exercising of disciplinary authority corresponds to the following people and bodies:

- a) Infringements related to the rules of play: To the umpires and referees during sporting events or competitions of an internal membership nature, subject to the rules established by the governing bodies of each sporting discipline or those specifically passed for the competition in question;
- b) Infringements related to sporting conduct: To the Disciplinary Commission;
- c) Infringements related to membership conduct: To the Disciplinary Commission, except in the case that the presumed infringer is a member of that Commission, of the Board of Directors or any Commission of statutory rank, or is the Members' Ombudsman, in which case the exercise of the disciplinary authority will correspond to the Board of Directors.

## **Article 71 Classification of infringements**

**71.1.** Infringements related to the rules of play

To be applied will be, as a reference, the classification and list of different infringements of the rules of play detailed in the Statutes or Rules of the Federations governing the sports modalities corresponding to the games or competitions organised internally by the Club, and these will be qualified as minor, serious or very serious.

#### **71.2.** Infringements related to sporting conduct.

To be applied will be, as a reference, the classification and list of different minor, serious or very serious infringements described by general sports regulations.

## **71.3.** Infringements related to membership conduct.

Infringements of regulations regarding membership, being actions or omissions related with the Club and its activities, are classified as minor, serious or very serious.

## **Article 72 Types of minor infraction**

Minor infringements are:

- a) Actions or omissions of members against the law, the Statutes, the resolutions of the General Assembly or Board of Directors, or the general standards of association between members, which are not classified as serious or very serious;
- b) Improper behaviour with respect to other members, players, coaches, line judges, referees and other sports authorities who are acting in the exercise of their functions, or with the public in general;
- Unjustified failure to comply with orders and instructions given by the sports authorities and/or any member of the Board of Directors acting in the exercise of their functions, when these do not constitute a serious or very serious infringement;
- d) The incorrect use of the Club's financial or material resources, when not classified as a very serious infringement.

#### **Article 73 Types of serious infraction**

Serious infringements are:

- a) Actions or omissions of members against the law, the Statutes, the resolutions of the General Assembly or the Board of Directors, which are of public importance or cause material damage to the image of the Club, fellow members, the members of the Board of Directors, the players, coaches or employees;
- b) Supply or onerous and isolated transfer of a document allowing access to a sports event organised by the Club, or in which the Club participates, except when the assignment is made through or in favour of the Club itself. For such a purpose, onerous is understood to mean all transfer that implies receipt of any economic consideration.
- A negligent attitude to compliance with the obligations of preventing violence during a match, event or competition, and lack of collaboration in the investigation and discovery of the identity of those responsible for violent acts;
- d) Failure in compliance with the rules governing the holding of sports events, thus impeding their normal development or causing loss or prejudice to the participants or the public attending, when not constituting a very serious infringement;
- e) The introduction, sale, consumption or possession, on the Club's premises or precincts, or in those where a Club team is playing a match, event or competition, of any type of alcoholic beverages and/or narcotic, psychotropic or stimulant substances or similar products;
- f) Insults or offense directed at other members, or the public attending a sports event.

#### **Article 74 Types of very serious infringements**

Very serious infringements are:

 a) Failure in compliance with the obligation to pay, reimburse or compensate the Club for any financial item owed by the member, with the exception of those corresponding to the membership fees or the price of the season ticket;

- b) The reiterated sale or transfer of documents giving access to sports events organised by the Club, or in which the Club takes part, with the exception in both cases that the assignment is made through or in favour of the Club itself. Sale or transfer is considered to be reiterated when the presumed violator has been penalised following a previous disciplinary inquiry, provided that the record of the imposed penalty has not been cancelled from the register due to passage of time or any other reason;
- c) Supply or onerous and isolated transfer of documents allowing access to a sports event organised by the Club, or in which the Club participates, when the transfer is made using the intermediation of organised networks, Internet or any other major means of widespread supply;
- d) Conduct which leads to the imposition on the Club of an enforced sanction, whether financial or of any other type;
- e) Any action or omission by the member against the law, the Statutes, the resolutions of the General Assembly or Board of Directors when there is fraud or bad faith;
- f) Any action or omission of the member against the law, the Statutes, the resolutions of the General Assembly or Board of Directors that has major public effect, this understood to mean when the action has media repercussions, exceeds the strict sphere of the Club and reaches general knowledge;
- g) Any action or omission by the member against the law, the Statutes, the resolutions of the General Assembly or Board of Directors, which causes material or moral damage of consideration to the Club, other members, players, coaches or employees of the Club;
- h) The disclosure of secrets in matters which are known by reason of the post;
- i) Any act aimed at impeding, disturbing, predetermining or altering the normal progress of sessions of the Club's collegiate organs, the elections, a vote of confidence, or the respective results;
- j) Conduct which seriously affects the normal progress of a match, event or competition, or which obliges its temporary or definitive suspension;
- k) Acts, demonstrations or behaviour which, directly or indirectly, induce or incite to violence, or to the infringement of legal rules or regulations preventing violence in sport;
- 1) Violation, on the Club's premises or precincts, or on premises or precincts where a Club team is playing in a match, event or competition, of the legal, regulation and statutory rules established with regard to the system for ticket sales, the separation of rival fans in different parts of the venue, and the control of access for compliance with the existing prohibitions;
- m) The introduction or exhibition, on the Club's premises or precincts, or on premises or precincts where a Club team is playing a match, event or competition, of posters, symbols or emblems when, due to their content or the circumstances in which they are exhibited or used, this could be considered to be an act which incites, promotes or aids violent, sexist, xenophobic or racist behaviour, or the manifest disparagement of any person;

- n) The introduction or possession, activation or launch, on the Club's premises or precincts, or on premises or precincts where a Club team is playing a match, event or competition, of any type of weapons or object that could produce the same effects, as well as flares, firecrackers, explosives or, in general, inflammable, smoke producing or corrosive products:
- o) Participation in altercations, fights or public disorder on the Club's premises or precincts, or on premises or precincts where a Club team is playing a match, event or competition or in the immediate vicinity of the one or the other, causing serious damage or risk to persons or goods;
- p) Intentionally causing damage to items on the Club's premises or precincts, or to items on the premises or precincts where a Club team is playing a match;
- a) Violent participation in group celebrations, meetings or similar related with the activities of the Club, regardless of whether or not those acts are organised by the Club.

#### **Article 75 Sanctions**

The sanctions which may be imposed for minor, serious or very serious infringements related with the rules of the game or sporting conduct will be those provided for in the general sports regulations.

The sanctions that can be imposed for minor, serious or very serious infringements related to membership conduct are:

## For minor infringements:

Private warning.

## For serious infringements:

- Public warning,
- Prohibition from entering the Camp Nou or other Club facilities for a maximum period of one year,
- Suspension of membership for 1 to 4 months.

## For very serious infringements:

- Prohibition from entering the Camp Nou or other Club facilities for a maximum period of one year and one day to two years,
- Suspension of membership for from 4 months and a day to 2 years,
- Loss of membership.

All the sanctions which involve the suspension or loss of membership can carry, as an additional penalty, a prohibition on entering the Camp Nou or other Club premises.

The Disciplinary Commission, when evaluating the infringement and the sanction to be applied, must consider the concurrence of circumstances that exempt. extenuate and aggravate responsibility in analogical fashion to the Penal Code, as well as the nature of the events, the personality of the person responsible and the consequences of the infringement.

The imposition of any disciplinary sanction will not exempt the infringer from the obligation of repaying or compensating the Club for any damages he or she has caused.

## Article 76 Statute of limitations for infringements and sanctions

The limit for opening disciplinary proceedings in relation to infringements and sanctions related to the rules of play and sporting conduct, as well as their calculation and interruption, will be governed by the general sports laws.

The limit for opening disciplinary proceedings in relation to infringements and sanctions related to membership conduct will be governed by the following regulations:

- a) The period for minor infringements expires after one month, for serious infringements one year and very serious infringements three years;
- b) The limit for sanctions will expire after one month, one year or three years depending on whether the infringements are minor, serious or very serious respectively;
- c) The period for the expiry of infringements will be counted from the day that the infringement is committed. The period will be interrupted by any action by the body with disciplinary authority, of which the interested party is informed, aimed at instigating the corresponding disciplinary procedure;
- d) The period for the expiry of sanctions will be counted from the day on which the resolution to impose the sanction is declared correctly notified to the infringing party.

The period will be interrupted by any action aimed at executing the sanction and about which the accused party is made aware.

#### Article 77 Disciplinary procedure

The imposition of sanctions due to infringements related to the rules of play or sporting conduct must be in accordance with the procedures and regulations stipulated by general sports laws.

The imposition of sanctions due to infringements related to membership conduct will be made after the assessment of disciplinary proceedings under the following regulations:

- a) The Disciplinary Commission, as soon as it is made aware of an infringement, will agree to open disciplinary proceedings, and from among its members will nominate an investigating officer. This resolution will irrefutably be notified to the member concerned. The Disciplinary Commission, before agreeing to open disciplinary proceedings, has the power to obtain whatever preliminary information it feels necessary. For such purposes, reports issued by the Club's security staff will, with respect to the events being described, be presumed to be truthful.
- b) Once the proceedings have been opened, the investigating officer will be supplied with details of all of the legal actions and evidence that he or she feels necessary, such as the statement by the party concerned, witnesses' statements, the provision of documents and any enquiries;
- c) Once this period has expired, the investigating officer for the proceedings must present a report-proposal to the Disciplinary Commission, which decides whether to dismiss the case and end the proceedings, or to press charges against

- the party concerned. The decision will be accepted by simple majority, and will be irrefutably notified in writing to the address stated in the FC Barcelona membership record;
- d) The list of charges will include a list of the infringements attributed to the member, who will have a period of no less than five calendar days to present a defence in writing and to propose forms of making enquiries that are considered relevant to that defence. This document will be supplied to the investigating officer of the proceedings;
- e) Once the period for presenting the defence has expired and, if necessary, any of the proposed enquiries have been made, the Commission will declare its verdict after a maximum period of 20 working days;
- f) The Disciplinary Commission's verdict may acquit the party charged, thus dismissing the case and considering the proceedings closed, or may condemn the party, thereby determining the sanction to be imposed. In both cases, the resolution will be made on fair grounds, and the party concerned will be irrefutably notified, who will be informed of the procedure for

appeal, if any, and the maximum period for lodging it;

- g) At the beginning of proceedings, or at any moment during the procedure, and if the circumstances make such a measure advisable, the Disciplinary Commission may agree, for reasons of caution, to withdraw the member's membership card or season ticket, or a cautionary prohibition on access to Camp Nou or other Club premises;
- h) When justified by identity or similarity of the facts that the proceedings concern, or should several proceedings be brought against the same member, joint hearings of the various disciplinary proceedings may be agreed;
- i) There may be no more than five months between the agreement to open proceedings and the notification to the interested party of the Disciplinary Commission's verdict as referred to in section f). If this period, which cannot be extended, should expire, the case and proceedings will be considered dismissed;
- j) The Members' Ombudsman may appear at any moment during the disciplinary proceedings in defence of the member concerned.
  In such a case, he or she will also partake in the all actions, as an interested party, and he or she will be supplied with any agreement or procedure, either from before or after his or her appearance. The Members' Ombudsman may attend meetings of the Disciplinary Commission, with the right to speak but not to vote, by request of the affected member.

For all purposes of the disciplinary procedure, the valid address of the member will be understood to be that shown in the Register of Members of FC Barcelona.

## Article 78 Appeals against sanctions. Revocation and appeals for annulment

a) Appeals may not be lodged against the sanctions agreed by the judges or referees related to the rules of play, of social or internal games or competitions organised by the Club.

- b) Against disciplinary agreements made by the Disciplinary Commission in relation to infringements related to sporting conduct, an appeal can be lodged within a maximum period of ten working days of the notification of the official announcement of the verdict to the Federation's Appeals Committee.
- c) Against disciplinary agreements made by the Disciplinary Commission in relation to infringements related to membership conduct, an appeal can be lodged to the judicial authorities within a period of forty days following notification of the official announcement of the verdict, in the case of the verdict being that the Statutes have been violated, or any other case that the member making the claim considers appropriate.

The lodging of appeals indicated in this article will not suspend the applicability of the agreements that are the object of the appeal, unless they involve circumstances that recommend this to be done, at the judgment of the federative or judicial body revising the case, following prior and reasonable request made by the party concerned.

The interested parties, within a period of 15 days counted from the date of notification of the sanction, may formulate to the Commission an appeal for the sanction to be cancelled, based on any of the following motives:

- a) When the description of the events contained in the verdict is manifestly erroneous and there is conclusive evidence of the error in the inquiry;
- b) When the allegations or evidence presented at the proper time and in the proper manner have been declared inexistent;
- c) When the verdict is manifestly incongruent from the described events or the persons affected.

The Board of Directors may revoke sanctions imposed by the Disciplinary Commission when it considers that they manifestly violate the Club's statutes or regulations or when unforeseen circumstances that affect the particular legal situation show that the sanction imposed is inadmissible.

The procedure for revocation will be exceptional and shall, under all circumstances, be initiated at the behest of the Board of Directors. Before issuing a verdict, a report must be requested from the Disciplinary Commission and the Club's Legal Advisors.

## Article 79 Records of sanctions

All of the sanctions imposed will be reflected in the Club books established by article 61 of the Statutes.

The corresponding records of sanctions imposed on Club members will be cancelled one year, two years and five years after having been served, depending on whether they were imposed as a result of minor, serious or very serious infringements, respectively.

## **MODIFICATION OF THE STATUTES**

## Article 80 Principles in relation to the modification of the Statutes

The procedure for the modification of the Statutes, meaning a set of procedures and actions that alter the statutory text, must guarantee its legality, correctness and appropriateness.

#### Article 81 Procedure for modification of the Statutes

The procedure shall be initiated by proposal of the Board of Directors, or the members by means of the procedure indicated in article 20.11, which shall include the articles to be approved and a report of the changes sought.

This proposal must be publicised to the members over a minimum period of twenty days.

The aforesaid procedure will not be applicable when the modification to the statutes is made through application of a compulsory regulation.

It is the competence of the General Assembly to approve, if relevant, any project to modify the Statutes or their compulsory adaptation to a legal or regulatory standard.

The modification of the Statutes will require a two thirds majority of those attending the General Assembly, except in cases of mere adaptation to a regulation of superior rank, in which case a simple majority will be required.

# **EXTINCTION AND DISSOLUTION** OF THECLUB. MERGER. ABSORPTION. **SEGREGATION. LIQUIDATION.**

#### Article 82 Extinction of the Club

The Club will become extinct:

- Through voluntary dissolution agreed by the Club members,
- Through merger with or absorption by other Clubs,
- For other causes stipulated by current legal provisions.

## Article 83 Dissolution of the club by will of the club members

The Dissolution of the Club by will of the Club members must be agreed by the General Assembly, with three quarters of the delegate members present voting in favour of the motion, representing, at least, the majority of the total number of delegate members.

## Article 84 Merger and absorption

The merger or absorption of FC Barcelona with or by other Clubs must be resolved by the General Assembly, with three quarters of the delegate members present voting in favour of the motion, representing, at least, the majority of the total number of delegate members.

The absorption of FC Barcelona by other Clubs, or by sections or segregated parts of other Clubs, must be resolved by the General Assembly, with the majority of the delegate members present voting in favour of the motion.

#### **Article 85 Transformation**

The transformation of the Club into a public limited company or any other sporting or business form other than the present, or of any of its sections that participate in competitions of a professional nature, after segregation of the same in the latter case, must be agreed by the General Assembly with three quarters of the delegate members present voting in favour of the motion, representing, at least, the majority of the total number of delegate members.

## Article 86 Liquidation of the club and its capital resources

Should the Club be dissolved, the Board of Directors or, if relevant, the Management Commission, will proceed to liquidate the Club's capital resources and assets, in accordance with the following criteria:

a) The necessary and essential assets will be sold to pay off the Club's debts, with preference given to moveable or perishable assets, over fixed assets;

- b) The remaining sports facilities will be donated to the Local Councils in which they are located, on condition that they are used for the development of sports, and in specific reference to the Camp Nou, on condition that the Club Museum stays open to the public;
- c) The remaining fixed assets that are not sports facilities will be donated to the Government of Catalonia so that they can be used for the development of sport.

Once the liquidation is complete a final General Assembly will be called to verify that the liquidation has been undertaken.

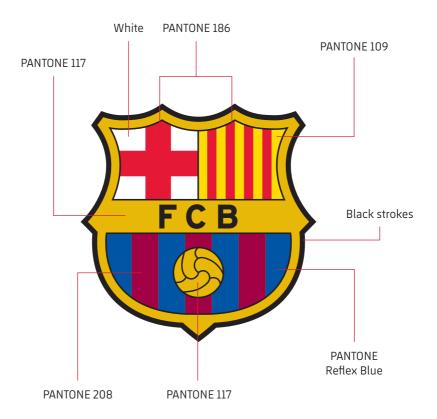
The Club Books and documents will be handed over to the custody of the Barcelona Municipal Archive.

## TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

FIRST.- The amendment of Article 34 will not affect the duration of the term of office of the current Board of Directors, which is expected to end on 30 June 2026. Therefore, it will enter into force from the end, for whatever reason, of the current term of office.

SECOND.- As a result of the Club's registered losses and debt at the time the annual accounts relating to the 2020-2021 financial year were approved, Article 67 of the Statutes is provisionally suspended and left without effect, until the restitution of positive equity.

# ANNEX





Modification to the FC Barcelona Statutes passed by Ordinary General Assembly on 23th October 2021

