



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ELECTION
CANDIDATES



**INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION**
OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Introduction

1.1. The International Federation of American Football is committed to good governance.

1.2. This code is intended to ensure and maintain the highest standards of conduct for election campaigns and those seeking elected positions in the federation

Scope and Application

2.1. This Code is applicable to all candidates for elected positions – namely the IFAF Executive Board members as defined by the IFAF Statutes.

2.2. This Code provides guidance on what is reasonable and ethical conduct for those individuals seeking to be elected into the roles defined in 2.1.

2.3. The Code provides guidance for candidates as well as IFAF Members, the IFAF Secretariat and wider IFAF post holders.

General Provisions – Code of Ethics

3.1. IFAF Directors covered under this Code are required to adhere to the IFAF Code of Conduct and IFAF Ethics and Anti-Corruption Code.

General Provisions for Elections

4.1. Each candidate shall provide an official document to the IFAF-nominated electoral officer using the format provided. The candidate document describes how they meet the requirements for the post for which they are a candidate, and the experience, skills and qualities they would bring to the position if elected.

4.2. The official candidature document shall be made available to the membership via email circulation. It may be published on the website and other IFAF social media platforms.

4.3. All candidates for election to the IFAF Board will be introduced or presented to the IFAF membership at the IFAF Congress at which the elections are to take place.

4.4. Each candidate shall be provided with an opportunity to make a presentation to the IFAF Members at the Congress where the election shall be held.

4.5. This presentation should focus on the credentials of the candidate and the vision and objectives for their term if elected. The presentation shall last no more than 5 minutes and may include video presentations and multi-media. It may take place remotely should the candidate not be able to attend in person.

4.6. The IFAF Board, secretariat and members of all IFAF committees shall maintain a strict duty of neutrality at all times. The members of the administration shall limit their relations with the candidates strictly to the content of their role as staff.

4.7 A period of purdah will exist for a fortnight period in advance of the election. Any IFAF post holder standing for election shall refrain from making any public announcement regarding IFAF policy, procedure or activity. The exception to this is where a statement may be required in relation to joint work with one of the following: The IOC; GAISF; WADA; CAS or as required by the IFAF legal team.

Specific Provisions for the Code of Conduct

5.1. All candidates shall run election campaigns with integrity and respect for other candidates, IFAF personnel and the institution of IFAF.

5.2. No candidate or campaign shall bring the IFAF or the sport of football into disrepute.

5.3. Candidates shall show respect for the democratic voting and/or election process.

5.4. Candidates may promote their candidature, subject to respecting the provisions of this Code of Conduct.

5.5. All communications undertaken by the candidate shall strictly respect the other candidates and shall in no way be prejudicial to any other candidate.

5.6. Candidates may grant interviews to the media on the understanding that the nominated electoral officer is informed of the interview in advance so it can be recorded.

5.7. IFAF resources shall not be used to fund or support travel and campaign activities by candidates who currently occupy IFAF elected positions.

5.8. Candidates may in no case and under no pretext give presents, offer donations or gifts or grant advantages of whatever nature.

5.9. No candidate shall offer material benefits, directly or indirectly, to the voting delegate to influence the result of an election.

5.10. No candidate shall seek or accept gifts or gratuities for themselves, their family or friends from any outside organisation or person having or seeking to have an involvement with the IFAF.

5.11. As the voting is secret, IFAF Members are prohibited individually or collectively, from announcing publicly in any form whatsoever their intention to vote or from any public invitation to vote for a candidate.

5.12. Candidates may not enter into any form of undertaking with any person or legal entity likely to affect the freedom of decision or action of the future IFAF Board member.

5.13. Candidates shall not request the support or service in relation to a candidature from any member of the IFAF administration.

5.14. Candidates must refrain from making negative, derogatory or personal comments and comments that may question the professionalism or integrity through media and social media posts that relate to current IFAF Board members or other IFAF personnel.

5.15. Candidates must not undertake any action contrary to IFAF Rules and Regulations.

Non-IFAF Elections

6.1 Should an IFAF post holder be standing in an election for a role with a member federation they must inform the IFAF electoral officer and President as soon as their candidature is submitted.

6.2 The person must abide by the electoral principles as set out in this Code and the Provisions of Election as designated by the member federation.

6.3 During the election period the candidate will respect a period of purdah in their IFAF role as per 4.7. If they hold a role where they are actively involved in working with members (for example in the delivery of an event) they can continue to deliver for and on behalf of the members but refrain from making public statements beyond their key target audience.

6.4 No IFAF post holder can campaign for or publicly support any candidate for election for a member federation role.

6.5 Where an IFAF post holder is seeking election to an external body they will comply with the electoral principles set out in this Code and with the Provisions of Elections as designated by the external body.

Disciplinary and Grievance

7.1. Alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct shall be investigated using the principles and procedures detailed in the IFAF Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Regulations.

7.2. Candidates are required to report breaches of this Code and the Code of Ethics and to cooperate and assist fully in investigations.

7.3. If a candidate has committed any offence under this Code of Conduct, the Candidate shall be deemed to have breached this Code. Breaches of the Code constitute the basis for disciplinary action and appropriate penalties.

7.4 All candidates must meet the requirements of an office holder as set out in the Code of Conduct, Statutes or other IFAF rule or regulation.

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