

# **STATUTES**

## **FOR**

### **LAGOS STATE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

#### **2023**

#### **LAGOS STATE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION STATUTES AS AMENDED**

#### **DEFINITIONS**

The following terms, abbreviations, and/or acronyms are used in the interpretation of these Statutes.

1. **"FIFA"** stands for Federation International de Football Association
2. **"CAF"** means Confederation of African Football
3. **"WAFU"** means West African Football Union
4. **"NFF"** means Nigeria Football Federation
5. **"State Football Association"** means the Football Association of the state
6. **"IMC"** means Interim Management Committee the body duly recognized by the NFF and responsible for the organization of non-amateur football in Nigeria.
7. **"IFAB"** means International Football Association Board, which authorizes and modifies the law of the game.
8. **"Officials"** mean all the board members, coaches, assistants, technical, medical or administrative supervisors of the relevant organizations.
9. **"Federation"** means the NFF

10. **"League"** means any other body duly affiliated to the State Football Association that has been granted the authority to organize a competition or competitions which have been sanctioned by the State Football Association in accordance with the statute.
11. **"State General Assembly"** means the supreme body of State Football Association, which is the assembly of delegates affiliated and entitled to attend such assembly convened in accordance with this statute.
12. **"State Executive Committee"** means executive body of State Football Associations elected in accordance with these statutes.
13. **"Auditing Organ"** means any other auditing body so selected by the State Football Association.
14. **"Consultative Committee"** means a Standing or Ad-Hoc Committee.
15. **"Laws of the game"** refers to the laws of the game authorized by the International Football Association Board.
16. **"Territory State"** means the territory of the state.
17. **"Association Football"** means the game controlled by FIFA and organized in accordance with the laws of the game.
18. **"Arbitration"** means quasi-judicial panel acting instead of an ordinary Court.
19. **"Ordinary Courts"** means any court so properly called anywhere within the territory of Lagos State.
20. **"CAS (TAS)"** means the Court of Arbitration for Sport (Tribunal Arbitral du Sport) in Lausanne, Switzerland.

**NB:** References to natural persons include both genders. The singular case applies to the plural and vice-versal

## **I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 1**

#### **NAME, HEADQUARTER, LEGAL FORM**

1. Lagos State Football Association is a public organization of an associative nature, in compliance with the laws of Federal Republic of Nigeria. It is formed for an unlimited period.
2. **The Headquarter is in OGUNLANA DRIVE, SURULERE, LAGOS.**
3. Lagos State Football Association is a member of FIFA, CAF, WAFU and NFF.
4. **The Flag of the Association is white with Red, Blue, Yellow and Green Stripes and the emblem of the Association in the middle.**
5. **The emblem of the Association is a Football with the Association's name written on it.**
6. The logo of the Association is same as above.
7. The abbreviation of the association is **LSFA**
8. The flag, emblem, logo and abbreviation are legally registered with Trade Marks Registry of the appropriate authority of Nigeria. **(TO BEREREGISTERED)**
9. **The Tenure of the Executive Committee of the Lagos State Football Association shall be Four (4) years from the date of election.**

## **Article 2**

### **NEUTRALITY AND NON- DISCRIMINATION**

1. Lagos State Football Association is neutral in matters of politics and religion.
2. Discrimination of any kind against a country, a private person or group on account of ethnic origin, gender, language, religion, politics or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

## **Article 3**

### **PROMOTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS**

1. Lagos State Football Association shall promote friendly relations between its members, clubs, officials, players and society for humanitarian objectives.
2. Every person and organization involved in the game of football is obliged to observe the statutes, regulations and the principles of fair play as well as the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.
3. Lagos State Football Association shall provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any internal dispute that may arise between Members, Clubs, Officials and Players of the Lagos State Football Association.

## **Article 4**

### **LAWS OF THE GAME**

1. Lagos State Football Association and each of its Members play association football in compliance with the laws of the game issued by IFAB. Only IFAB may lay down and alter the Laws of the Game.



## **Article 5**

### **CONDUCT OF BODIES OFFICIALS**

The Bodies and Officials of Lagos State Football Association must observe the Statutes, regulations, directives, decisions and the Codes of ethics of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and State Football Association in their activities.

## **Article 6**

### **OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**

1. The official languages of the Lagos State Football Association shall be English and Yoruba of the state.
2. Official documents and texts shall be written in these languages.
3. In the event of any divergence between the interpretations of texts in different languages, the texts written in English shall be regarded as authoritative.
4. The official languages of the State General Assembly shall be English and Yoruba.

## **II MEMBERSHIP**

### **Article 7**

#### **ADMISSION, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION**

1. The State General Assembly shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a member.
2. (a) Admission may be granted if the applicant fulfills the requirements of the Lagos State Football Association.  
(b) Notwithstanding that an application may satisfy such criteria and conditions, the LSFA shall have the power in its absolute discretion to refuse an application to be a full member and accordingly, only on the written confirmation of the State Executive Committee shall an applicant be accorded the status of a member.

3. Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve a member from its financial obligations towards LSFA or other members but leads to cancellation of all rights in relation to LSFA. However, suspension does not relieve a member from its financial obligations towards the LSFA.

## **Article 8**

### **ADMISSION**

1. The members of the LSFA are:
  - (a) Divisional Football Associations subordinate to LSFA
  - (b) The Premier division clubs subordinate to LSFA
  - (c) The leagues, subordinate to LSFA (i.e. i. Nigeria National League, ii. Nationwide League One, iii. Women Leagues, iv. Ekofootball (State) League.
  - (d) The State Referees Council, subordinate to LSFA,
  - (e) The Nigeria Football Coaches Association, Lagos Chapter, subordinate to LSFA.
2. Any legal or natural person wishing to become a member of LSFA shall apply in writing to the Secretariat of the LSFA.
3. The application must be accompanied by the following mandatory items.
  - (a) A copy of its legal valid statutes and regulations.
  - (b) A declaration that it will always comply with statutes, regulations and decisions of the LSFA, NFF, WAFU, CAF and FIFA and ensure that these are also respected by its own members, clubs, officials and players.
  - (c) A declaration that it will comply with Laws of the Game in force.
  - (d) A declaration that it recognizes the judicial bodies of the LSFA and the Court of Arbitration for Sports in Lausanne, as specified in these statutes.
  - (e) A declaration that its location and registered office is in the territory of the LSFA.
  - (f) A declaration that it will play all official home matches in the territory of the LSFA.

- (g) A declaration to the effect that the legal composition of the applicant guarantees that it can make decisions independently of any external entity.
  - (h) A list of its officials, specifying those who are authorized signatories, with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with the third parties.
  - (i) A declaration that it undertakes to organize or participate in friendly matches only with the prior consent of LSFA.
  - (j) A copy of the minutes of its last general assembly or constitutional meeting.
  - (k) A declaration to the effect that it recognizes the exclusive authority of an arbitral tribunal of the Appeals Committee of the LSFA in respect of all legal disputes involving itself and any of its members.
  - (l) A declaration to the effect that it agrees to be bound by the statutes, regulations and directives in their current form and subject to later amendments as well as by the decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and LSFA to which it is affiliated.
- 4. This article shall affect the statutes of existing members.
  - 5. The State Executive Committee may propose to exempt a candidate from the conditions specified under (3e) and/or (3f).

## **Article 9**

### **REQUEST AND PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION**

- 1. The procedure for admission shall be regulated by special regulation approved by the State Executive Committee of the LSFA.
- 2. The State Executive Committee shall request the State General Assembly either to admit or not to admit an applicant. The applicant may state the reasons for its application to the General Assembly.

3. The new member shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted. Its delegates are eligible to vote and be elected with immediate effect, subject however to the provisions of the article above.
4. The State General Assembly of LSFA has the sole right to decide on the affiliation of a member.

## **Article 10**

### **MEMBERS' RIGHTS**

1. The members of LSFA have the following rights:
  - a. To take part in the State General Assembly of LSFA, know its agenda in advance, be called to the General Assembly within the prescribed time and exercise their voting rights.
  - b. To draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the State General Assembly.
  - c. To nominate candidates for all bodies of LSFA to be elected.
  - d. To be informed of the affairs of LSFA through the official bodies of LSFA.
  - e. To take part in competitions and/or other activities organized by LSFA.
  - f. To exercise all other rights arising from the statutes and regulations of the LSFA.
2. The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these statutes and the applicable regulations.

## **Article 11**

### **MEMBERS' OBLIGATIONS**

1. The members of LSFA have the following obligations: To comply fully with the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and LSFA at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members a. To ensure the elections of its decision making bodies.
  - b. To take part in competitions and other activities organized by LSFA.



- c. To pay their membership subscriptions/ Affiliation fees.
  - d. To respect the Laws of the Game as laid down by IFAB and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision.
  - e. To adopt statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF or LSFA shall be determined by the Judicial bodies within this Statute without resource whatsoever to ordinary courts.
  - f. To communicate to LSFA any amendment of its Statutes and regulations as well as the list of its officials or persons who are authorized signatories with the right to enter legally binding agreements with third parties.
  - g. Not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognized or with members that have been suspended or expelled.
  - h. To observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behavior as an expression of fair play through statutory provisions.
  - i. To observe mandatory items for the duration of their affiliations.
  - j. To administer a register of members; this shall regularly be updated.
  - k. To comply fully with other duties arising from the Statutes and other regulations of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and LSFA.
2. Violation of any of the above-mentioned obligations by any member may lead to sanctions provided for in this Statute.

## **Article 12**

### **CONSTITUTION OF MEMBERS**

Any change or changes in the constitution or in the rules of a full or associate member or of a recognized football body shall become operative only if it is/they are submitted to the



Secretary in writing by recorded delivery letter and have been approved by the State Executive Committee.

### **Article 13**

#### **OFFICIAL RETURN**

Each member shall lodge with the Secretary not later than 90 days in each year the Annual Report and shall notify in writing without delay any subsequent changes to the details contained in such Annual Report. Each member shall ensure that the relevant official secretary, director or member of the board or management or committee of such member will personally confirm to the LSFA utilizing the form prescribed by the Executive Committee.

### **Article 14**

#### **EXPULSION/ DISMISSAL**

The State General Assembly may suspend or dismiss a member, body or person if:

1. It seriously violates the Statutes, regulations, directives or decisions of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and LSFA.
2. The State Executive Committee may place suspension or dismissal of a member, person or body on the agenda of the General Assembly. The State Executive Committee may also dismiss a member, person or body provisionally. Any State Executive Committee member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for suspension or expulsion on the agenda of the State Executive Committee or General Assembly.

3. The motion for suspension or expulsion to be justified, it will be sent to the members of LSFA along with the agenda.
4. The member, person or body in question has the right to speak in his or its defense.
5. If the motion for suspension or expulsion is carried, the state General Assembly or Executive Committee shall reach a decision by means of secret ballot. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two thirds of valid votes is required.
6. The member, person or body dismissed provisionally shall be relieved of his or its functions with immediate effect.

#### **Article 15**

##### **RESIGNATION**

A member may resign from LSFA with effect from the end of a calendar year. Notice of such resignation must reach the General Secretariat not later than three (3) months before the exit date.

The resignation is not valid unless and until the member wishing to resign has fulfilled its financial obligations towards LSFA and other members of LSFA.

#### **Article 16**

##### **DISSOLUTION**

The dissolution of the legal entity of a member may be voluntary or legal. In either case, it results in the loss of membership status.

## **Article 17**

### **STATUS OF DIVISIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS, CLUBS ETC.**

1. Divisional Football Associations, clubs, leagues or any other group of clubs affiliated to LSFA shall be subordinate to and recognized by LSFA. These Statutes define the scope of authority and rights and duties of these clubs and groups. Their Statutes and regulations must be approved by the Executive Committee of LSFA.
2. The affiliated clubs and groups of LSFA shall take all decisions on any matter regarding their membership independent of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.
3. In any case, no natural or legal person shall exercise control over more than one club or group whenever the integrity of any match or competition could be jeopardized.

## **Article 18**

### **AFFILIATION FEES PAYABLE**

1. Affiliation fees payable by the members/bodies or any other organization taking part in any competition organized by the LSFA shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
2. It is the responsibility of the LSFA to ensure that affiliation fees are paid.
3. All payments shall be made on or before LSFA deadline and defaulting members/bodies shall be penalized by the LSFA, in accordance with this statute.
4. The proceeds from affiliation fees shall be disbursed in accordance with an agreed formula as may be decided by the LSFA.

## **Article 19**

### **TOURNAMENT FEES**

1. All Tournaments, Talent Hunts and such other Competitions shall pay tournament fees.
2. Tournament Fees are payable by members/bodies or other organizations taking part in any competition/activity organized by the LSFA or any other body.
3. It is the responsibility of the Executive Committee to ensure that the above is adhered to.
4. All payments shall be made on or before LSFA deadline, and defaulting members/bodies shall be penalized by the LSFA in accordance with the Statutes.
5. The proceeds from subscription fees shall be disbursed in accordance with an agreed formula or as may be decided by the LSFA.

## **Article 20**

### **STATE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

1. Lagos State Football Association shall consist of the Divisional Football Associations within the State.
2. The Lagos State Football Association shall establish, run and maintain a permanent headquarters in the State Capital.
3. The powers and functions of Lagos State Football Association shall include the following:
  - a. It shall have the power to make such rules and regulations deemed necessary to provide for matters arising from their activities and to implement these rules in so far as such rules or regulations are not in conflict with any rules or regulations of the NFF, WAFU, CAF and FIFA.
  - b. It shall have authority to perform the functions of the NFF within its area of



jurisdiction in the State and shall perform on behalf of the NFF other functions that may be delegated to it from time to time.

- c. It shall have the power to deal with violations of the Laws of the Game, the Statutes, rules and regulations of the NFF or misconduct of any of their clubs or players, officials or members in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Lagos State Football Association and NFF subject to the right of appeal.
- d. It shall cooperate with Divisional Football Association in the area of jurisdiction and shall involve them in the administration of football as and when necessary.
- e. It shall be responsible to the NFF for the conduct or action of its players, officials and spectators and is required to take all precaution(s) necessary to prevent them from threatening or assaulting officials and players, before, during and after matches. Such conduct or action shall include the use of abusive language.
- f. It shall procure funds required to fulfill its duties adequately and shall keep a cashbook in which shall be entered all receipts and payments. A duly audited balance sheet shall be issued each season and a copy sent to the Federation. All receipts shall be entered into the cashbook and all books and vouchers of the Association shall be retained and produced when required by the NFF.
- g. It shall also have the power to constitute all the bodies necessary and take all actions it deems useful to fulfill the duties incumbent upon it.
- h. It shall comply with and enforce compliance with the NFF Statutes, regulations and decisions and cooperate with the NFF in all matters relating to the organization of local, national and international competitions and Football in general.
- i. It shall have the power to organize its own inter-club and schools competitions.



- j. It shall have the power to elect or appoint its representatives on the NFF standing committees in conformity with the Statutes of NFF and it shall ensure that such representatives exercise their functions.
- k. It shall maintain good relations and cooperation with NFF, other members and clubs affiliated to the NFF.

**4. Annual General Assembly:**

- a. The Lagos State Football Association shall host its Annual General Assembly before the NFF General Assembly except the Elective General Assembly, which shall succeed NFF Elective Assembly.
- b. At the State Annual General Assembly, each DFA shall be represented by two delegates and shall be entitled to one vote.
- c. Officials of the NFF *or* its nominee shall be eligible to attend meetings of the State Association.

**5. State Executive Committee:**

- a. The Executive Committee of the Lagos State Football Association shall be composed of Thirteen (13) members, comprising of Twelve (12) elected members, Four (4) from each Senatorial District and one (1) female elected member in any of the Senatorial District, made up as follows:-
  - Chairman
  - Vice Chairman
  - 2nd Vice Chairman
  - Nine (9) Ordinary Members
  - One (1) Ordinary Female Member.
- b. Individuals from the same Senatorial District shall not occupy the positions of Chairman, Vice Chairman and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman.
- c. The Composition of the Executive Committee shall be made up of at least one elected female executive committee member.

- d. The position of the State Secretary shall be by appointment of the Executive Committee.
- e. Only the Executive Committee can recommend the dismissal of the Secretary.

## **Article 21**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **A. ELIGIBILITY**

A person shall be qualified to contest the elections into the Executive Committee if:-

1. He/she is a citizen of Nigeria in accordance with the provisions of Section 25 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as amended.
2. He/she has been educated up to at least a Post Primary School Certificate or its equivalent.
3. He/she has attained the age of 30 years for ordinary member or 35 years for Chairman and Vice Chairman. (applicable to the State & Division election)
4. He/she is a duly registered member of a body, club or other organization, which is a member of the NFF through the LSFA in accordance with Article 10 of the NFF Statutes 2010, for a period of four years, prior to the date of the election, or been involved in the administration of football for at least four years prior to the date of the elections. However, this condition is not applicable to female candidates vying for the reserved female seat.
5. The candidate must have been nominated by any of the LSFA affiliates and seconded by his Divisional Football Association, upon the purchase of the nomination and evidence of payment must be produced during screening 6. He/she produces evidence of tax payment as and when due for a period of three (3) years immediately preceding the year of election.
7. He/she has a verifiable and veritable means of livelihood.
8. He/She purchases a nomination form at the cost as prescribed by the Electoral Committee.

9. He/She has not contravened the FIFA Integrity Clause as directed by the NFF in its letter dated May 02, 2017 and signed by the General Secretary, Dr. Mohammed Sanusi.
10. He/She has not contravened Article 19 of LSFA Statutes on Tournament Fees.
11. Nothing in these guidelines shall be construed as precluding any Divisional FA or other member(s) of the LSFA from endorsing more than one candidate.

**B. DISQUALIFICATION FROM CONTESTING THE ELECTION:**

A person shall not be qualified to contest the Executive Committee elections if:

1. He/ She does not satisfy the eligibility criteria as contained in Article 4 of this guidelines;
2. He/ She is adjudged to be a lunatic or is otherwise adjudged to be of unsound mind;
3. He/ She has been convicted of any criminal offence;
4. He has been found guilty of contravention of the Code of Conduct Bureau and Tribunal Act 1990, or indicted by any lawfully constituted Body or Authority under any Law(s) of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
5. He/ She has been found guilty of an offence involving narcotics or other psychotropic substances under a law in force in Nigeria or elsewhere;
6. He/ She has been dismissed from public service of the Federation, State or Local Government;
7. He/ She is an un-discharged bankrupt under any law in force in any part of Nigeria;
8. He / She is a member of a secret society or cult;
9. He/ She has been indicted for examination malpractice including presentation of forged or false Certificates.
10. He/She has been found to contravened the FIFA Integrity Clause as directed by NFF in its letter dated May 02, 2017 and signed by the General Secretary, Dr. Mohammed Sanusi.
11. He/She has been found to contravened Article 19 of the LSFA Statutes on Tournament Fees.



12. Whereas a person seeking to contest as a member of the Board is involved in a criminal case that is pending before a court or tribunal, he may nevertheless stand as a candidate to the election pending the determination of the case, PROVIDED that if he is found guilty by the court or tribunal as the case may be, he shall:-

- a) Withdraw from the election, and
- b) If already elected, cease to be a member of the Executive Committee, Vice Chairman or Chairman, as the case may be.

### **c CHAIRMAN**

- 1. To be eligible to contest for the position of Chairman of the Executive Committee, the candidate must have been involved in football management and administration for a period of four (4) unbroken years preceding the date of the election in his state, and must show concrete and verifiable evidence.
- 2. The candidate must possess a minimum educational qualification of school certificate or its equivalent.
- 3. The candidate must possess three (3) years tax clearance preceding the date of the election.
- 4. The candidate must be solvent and must not have been convicted by any court in Nigeria.
- 5. The candidate must be of sound mind.
- 6. The candidate must not have taken in the past or during the period of the election any footballing or football cause or matter to the ordinary courts.
- 7. The candidate must have been nominated **by any of its affiliates and seconded by his Divisional Football Association.**

### **d. VICE CHAIRMAN AND 2ND VICE CHAIRMAN**

- 1. As applicable in the case of the Chairman in Article 21(C1) – (C7) Supra, to be eligible to contest for the position of Vice Chairman and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee, the candidate must have been involved in footballing/football related

matters for an unbroken period of three (3) years preceding the date of the election in his state and must show concrete and verifiable evidence.

#### **E. OTHER MEMBERS**

1. As applicable to the conditions aforementioned in Articles 21(C) & (D), to be eligible to contest for the position of ordinary member, the candidate must have been involved in footballing/football related matters for an unbroken period of two (2) years preceding the date of the election in his state and must show concrete and verifiable evidence.

#### **Article 22**

#### **DIVISIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS**

1. A Divisional Football Association (DFA) shall consist of not more than Five (5) elected members in which one (1) slot is reserved for female member and the secretary.
2. Each DFA shall affiliate with the LSFA with a sum to be determined by the Executive Committee together with an annual subscription fee every calendar year thereafter.
3. Each DFA shall have the power to make such rules and regulations deemed necessary to provide for matters arising from its activities and to implement these rules in so far as such rules and regulations are not in conflict with any rules or regulations of the LSFA.
4. Each DFA shall have authority to perform the functions of the LSFA within its area of jurisdiction and shall perform on behalf of the LSFA other functions that may be delegated to it from time to time.
5. Each DFA shall cooperate with clubs under their area of jurisdiction and shall involve them in the administration of Football as and when necessary.



6. Each DFA shall have the power to deal with violations of the Laws of the Game, the Statutes, rules and regulations of the LSFA, or misconduct of any of the rules and regulations of FIFA, CAF, WAFU, NFF and LSFA subject to the right of appeal to the LSFA.
7. Each DFA shall be responsible to the LSFA or its agents for the conduct of action of their players, officials and spectators and is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent them from threatening or assaulting officials and players before, during and after matches. Such conduct or action shall include the use of objectionable language.
8. Each DFA shall procure funds required to fulfill its duties adequately and shall keep a cashbook in which shall be entered all receipts and payments. A duly audited balance sheet shall be issued each season and a copy sent to the LSFA. A receipt shall be entered with the cashbook and all books and vouchers of the DFA shall be retained and produced as when required by the LSFA.
9. It shall have the power to constitute all the bodies necessary and take actions deemed useful to fulfill the duties incumbent upon it.
10. Each DFA shall comply with and enforce compliance with the NFF Statutes, regulations and decisions and cooperate with the LSFA in all matters relating to the organization of local, national and international competitions and football in general.
11. Each DFA shall have the power to organize its own inter-club and schools competitions with the approval of the LSFA.
12. Each DFA shall have the power to elect or appoint its representative on the DFA standing Committees in conformity with the Statutes of LSFA.
13. Each DFA shall be deemed to have knowledge of and be bound by the Statutes, rules and regulations of the LSFA.

14. Each DFA shall maintain good relations and cooperation with NFF, other member associations, LSFA and clubs affiliated to the NFF.
15. Each Council shall be deemed to have knowledge of and be bound by the decisions taken by the LSFA.
16. The tenure of the DFA Executive Committees shall be Four (4) years but shall hold its own General Assembly as determined by the LSFA before the General Assembly.

### **Article 23**

#### **LEGAL FORM OF MEMBERS**

The members of the LSFA are brought together in the form of a public organization of an associative nature in compliance with the laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

### **III. ORGANISATION**

#### **Article 24**

##### **Bodies of LSFA**

1. The State Congress/General Assembly is the supreme and legislative body.
2. The State Executive Committee is the executive body.
3. Standing and ad hoc committees shall advise and assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its duties. Their duties, composition and functions are defined in the Statutes and/or special regulations drawn up by the Executive Committee.
4. The General Secretariat is the Administrative body.
5. The judicial bodies are the Disciplinary and Appeal Committees.

6. The bodies of the LSFA shall be elected/ appointed by itself without any external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in the Statutes.

## **Article 25**

### **DEFINITION OF AND COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1. The General Assembly is the meeting at which all of the members of the LSFA regularly convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of the LSFA.
2. A State General Assembly may be ordinary or extra-ordinary General Assembly.
3. The Chairman shall conduct the LSFA General Assembly business in compliance with the standing orders of the General Assembly.
4. The Congress may appoint observers who take part in the Congress without the right to debate or vote.

## **Article 26**

### **DELEGATES AND VOTES**

1. The number of delegates is allocated as follows:
  - a. Each of the Five (5) DFAs, duly affiliated to the LSFA shall have two (2) delegates but one (1) vote.
  - b. The State Referees' Council, subordinate to the LSFA, each shall have two (2) delegates but one (1) vote.
  - c. The Nigeria Football Coaches Association, subordinate to the LSFA, each shall have two (2) delegates but one (1) vote.
  - d. Each League duly affiliated to the LSFA shall have one (1) delegate and one vote i.e. **Nigeria National League, Nationwide League One, Women Leagues and ekofootball (State) League.**

2. Delegates must belong to the member that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that member based on timely and consistent payment of affiliation and member performance. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.
3. Each delegate of the same category of Member has an equal number of votes in the General Assembly. Only the delegates present are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy or by letter is not permitted.
4. The Lagos State Football Association Executive Committee and the Lagos State Football Association General Secretary shall take part in the General Assembly without voting rights. During their term of office, members of the Executive Committee may not be appointed as delegates for their association.

#### **Article 27**

#### **AREAS OF AUTHORITY**

The General Assembly has the following areas of authority:

- a. Adopting or amending the Statutes, regulations governing the application of the statutes and standing orders of the General Assembly.
- b. Appointing three (3) members to check the Minutes and approving the Minutes of the last meeting.
- c. Approving the scrutineers.
- d. Approving the financial statements.
- e. Approving the Chairman's activity report.
- f. Appointing the independent auditors upon the proposal of the Executive Committee.
- g. Approving the budget.



- h. Nominating the accounts auditing organ each year.
- i. Approving membership, affiliation/subscription.
- j. Electing the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and other members of the Executive committee.
- k. Appoint members of the judicial bodies every two (2) years.
- l. Deciding on the proposal of Executive Committee, whether to bestow the title of honorary Chairman or member on a person who has made a particularly valuable contribution to football within the LSFA.
- m. Admitting and approving suspension and expulsion of a member.
- n. Approving the resignation of a member.
- o. Revoking the mandate of one or a number of members of an organ of the LSFA.
- p. Dissolving the LSFA.

## **Article 28**

### **QUORUM OF THE STATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1. Decision passed by the State General Assembly shall only be valid if the absolute majorities (50%+1) of the members who are entitled to vote are present.
2. If a quorum is not achieved, a second State General Assembly shall take place within 24 hours after the first with the same agenda.
3. A quorum is not required for the second meeting unless any item on the agenda proposes the amendment of the Statutes of the LSFA, the election of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairman and members of the Executive Committee, the dismissal of one or a number of members of a body of the LSFA, the expulsion of a member of the LSFA or the dissolution of the LSFA.

## **Article 29**

### **DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a simple majority of the members entitled to vote is sufficient for a vote to be valid. The number of valid votes counted shall decide the majority. Spoiled or blank voting slips or any other form of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.

A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of balloting. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favor of a motion, the votes shall be taken calling the role in alphabetical order.

## **Article 30**

### **ELECTIONS**

1. Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
2. For a person to be elected, a simple majority of the votes recorded and valid is necessary in the first ballot. In the second and any other requisite ballot, a simple majority of the vote recorded is also sufficient.
3. If there are more than two (2) candidates for one available position, the candidate that obtains the lowest number of votes is eliminated as from the second ballot until only two candidates are left.
4. The State Executive Committee shall draw up a guideline for the election. (i.e. a bye law)
5. The State General Assembly must elect all members of the State Executive Committee.

## **Article 31**

### **STATE ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

1. The Ordinary General Assembly shall be held every year.
2. The State Executive Committee shall fix the place and date. The members shall be notified in writing at least seven (7) days in advance.

3. The formal convocation shall be made in writing at least one (1) week before the date of the State General Assembly. The convocation shall contain the agenda, the Chairman's activity report, the financial statements and the auditors' report and any other relevant documents.

### **Article 32**

#### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA**

1. The LSFA General Secretary shall draw up the agenda based on the proposals from the State Executive Committee and the members. Any proposal that a member wishes to submit to the State General Assembly shall be sent to the General Secretariat in writing with a brief explanation, at least one (1) month before the date of the State General Assembly.
2. The General Assembly shall include the following mandatory items:
  - a. A declaration that the State General Assembly has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes of the LSFA.
  - b. Approval of the agenda.
  - c. An address by the Chairman.
  - d. Appointment of members to check the Minutes.
  - e. Appointment of scrutineers
  - f. Suspension or expulsion of members (if applicable)
  - g. Approval of the Minutes of the preceding General Assembly
  - h. Chairman's activity report (containing the activities since the last State General Assembly)
  - i. Presentation of the consolidated and revised balance sheet and the profit and loss statement.
  - j. Approval of the financial statement

- k. Approval of the budget
- l. Admission for membership (if applicable)
- m. Votes on proposal for amendments to the Statutes, the regulations governing the application of the Statute and the standing orders of the Congress (if applicable)
- n. Discussion of proposals submitted by the members and the Executive Committee.
- o. Appointment of independent auditors (if applicable) upon the proposal of the Executive Committee.
- p. Dismissal of a person or a body (if applicable).
- q. Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the State Executive Committee (if applicable).
- r. Any further items proposed by the members or the State Executive Committee of the LSFA
- s. Any Other Business

### **Article 33**

#### **STATE EXTRA-ORDINARY ASSEMBLY**

1. The State Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary General Assembly at any time.
2. The State Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary General Assembly if one-fifth of the members of the LSFA make such a request in writing. The request shall specify the LSFA items for the agenda. An Extra-Ordinary General Assembly shall be held within three (3) months of receipt on the request. If an Extraordinary General Assembly is not convened, the Members who requested it



3. may convene the State General Assembly themselves. As a last resort, the members may request assistance from the NFF.
4. The members shall be notified of the place, date and agenda at least one (1) month before the date of an Extraordinary General Assembly.
5. When an Extraordinary General Assembly is convened on the initiative of the State Executive Committee, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary Assembly is convened on request of the members, the agenda must contain the points raised by the members.
6. The agenda of the Extraordinary General Assembly may not be altered.

### **Article 34**

#### **AMENDMENTS OF THE STATE STATUTES**

1. The State General Assembly is responsible for amending the Statutes.
2. Any proposal for an amendment to the Statutes must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the General Secretariat by a member or by the State Executive Committee. A proposal submitted by a member is valid, provided it has been supported in writing by at least ten (10) other members.
3. For a vote for the amendment of the Statutes to be valid, an absolute majority (50% +1) of the members eligible to vote must be present.
4. A proposal for an amendment to the Statutes shall be adopted only if three-quarters of the members present and eligible to vote agree to it.
5. Any proposal to amend the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the congress must be submitted in writing with a brief explanation to the general secretariat by a member or by the State Executive Committee.

6. A proposal for an amendment to the regulations governing the application of the Statutes and the standing orders of the Congress shall be adopted only if a simple majority of the members present and eligible to vote agree on it.

#### **Article 35**

##### **MINUTES**

The General Secretariat shall be responsible for recording the Minutes at the General Assembly. The Minutes shall be checked by those members designated and finally approved at the next General Assembly.

#### **Article 36**

##### **EFFECTIVE DATES OF DECISION**

Decisions passed by the Congress shall come into effect for the members immediately after the close of the State General Assembly. As an affiliate or member of the association, a club, school or other organizations shall sign a declaration in which it undertakes:

- a. To conform at all times to the Statutes, regulations and decisions of the LSFA and NFF.
- b. To observe the Laws of the Game in force with the International Football Board.
- c. To pay as and when due the annual affiliation fee and tournament fee as laid down in the Statutes.

## **IV CLUBS**

#### **Article 37**

1. "Clubs" shall be interpreted to include social groups, educational institutions, professional bodies, corporate bodies, commercial and/or industrial bodies, youth organizations etc. interested in organized football.
2. Each club shall be made up of not less than Eighteen (18) players and Seven (7) officials who are identifiable and can be held responsible for the actions of the club and who shall form an organized executive of the club.
3. Each club shall be registered with the LSFA.

4. Each club shall have the following duties and rights:
  - a. To comply with and enforce compliance with the Statutes, rules and regulations and decisions of the LSFA among its players, officials and supporters.
  - b. To register for and take part in competitions organized by the LSFA, Zonal working Committee and the NFF to organize and/or take part in inter-club, interstate, inter-zonal and international friendly or competitive matches with the approval of the LSFA.
  - c. To appoint its representatives into relevant bodies and committees as may be directed by the LSFA, the Zonal working Committee and the NFF.
  - d. To appointment Committee and take all actions deemed necessary to encourage the development of football and in accordance with the rules and Statutes of the LSFA and NFF.
  - e. To procure the funds required to fulfill its duties adequately.
  - f. Each club shall immediately release its players for state call-up whenever LSFA request for inclusion of such player into the State Team.

## **Article 38**

### **PLAYERS**

1. All football players shall be registered by their clubs with the LSFA through their respective DFA.
2. All players shall be licensed by the LSFA.
3. All players shall submit themselves to and comply with the Statutes, rules, regulations and decisions of the LSFA and its affiliates.
4. Registration of players shall be effective at the beginning of the season and shall lapse at the end of the season unless a contract is signed between club and player for a specific duration.

5. Any player who has not been properly registered and who takes part in any competition organized by the LSFA or its affiliates shall be sanctioned. The same shall apply to players who though properly registered, have not been properly cleared.
6. Players shall be transferred according to the laid down rules in the regulations governing competitions organized by the LSFA or its affiliates.

### Articles 39

#### **UNFORESEEN MATTERS AND FORCE MAJEURE**

1. All matters not provided for in this Statute shall be resolved in line with provision of the LSFA Statutes.
2. Events not provided for in the LSFA Statutes, the State Executive Committee shall have the final decision in such matters including Force Majeure.

### Article 40

#### **ADOPTION AND ENFORCEMENT**

These Statutes were adopted at the LSFA General Assembly held at Molade Okoya Thomas Indoor Sports Hall, Teslim Balogun Stadium , Surulere on Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Signed:

Chairman



[www.lagosfa.com.ng](http://www.lagosfa.com.ng)

Secretary