

Pakistan Football Federation Electoral Regulations

2025 edition

PREAMBLE

In line with the decision taken by the Bureau of the FIFA Council on 27 June 2019, the PFF normalisation committee (normalisation committee) has been tasked with organising and conducting the elections of a new PFF executive committee. According to said decision, the normalisation committee shall act as the electoral committee whose decisions shall be final and binding. These Electoral Regulations (Regulations) have been approved by the normalisation committee to regulate and guide the electoral process. They shall ensure that the elections of the PFF executive committee are carried out in accordance with the general framework of the PFF Constitution, as adopted on 27 February 2025 by the PFF Congress (hereinafter: the PFF Constitution) as well as general principle of good governance advocated by FIFA and the AFC. The electoral college for the upcoming elections of the new PFF executive committee shall be based on the composition of the PFF Congress which approved the PFF Constitution on 27 February 2025 except what is necessary to adhere to PFF Statutes, Disciplinary and Ethics Code and Electoral Rules.

Article 1 Scope of application and general principles

- ¹ These Regulations are applicable to the elections of the members of the Executive Committee of PFF, which shall take place at the end of the normalisation phase of PFF, in accordance with the decision of the relevant FIFA bodies.
- ² The elections of the PFF Executive Committee shall be organised and conducted in accordance with the relevant provisions of the PFF Constitution and these Regulations.
- ³ General good governance principles, such as the separation of powers, independence, transparency, and the obligation to avoid situations of conflicts of interest shall be observed without exception throughout the entire electoral process.
- ⁴ Any undue influence from third parties in the electoral process shall not be permitted. The PFF Disciplinary Committee shall investigate any actions or circumstances and take any decisions in line with the PFF Disciplinary Code. PFF shall immediately inform FIFA and the AFC of such influence in the electoral process. The FIFA Ethics Committee may also be informed about any potential breach of the FIFA Code of Ethics in relation to the electoral process so that appropriate actions can be taken.
- ⁵ For the purpose of these Regulations, the normalisation committee shall be referred hereinafter as the "Electoral Committee", whose composition shall remain the same.

Article 2 Responsibilities of the Electoral Committee

The Electoral Committee shall be responsible for all tasks relating to the organisation, running and supervision of the elections to take place at the end of the normalisation phase. In particular, the Electoral Committee shall be responsible for:

- a) ensuring that the provisions of these Regulations as well as the relevant provisions related to the electoral process contained in the PFF Constitution are respected;

- b) providing information to the Members of PFF, the media and the public, notably by holding a media conference (where necessary);
- c) where necessary, managing relations with relevant government authorities;
- d) the candidature procedure (launch, distribution of information, evaluation, publication of official list, etc.);
- e) drawing up the list of voters (delegates), assisted by the general secretariat, in accordance with the statutory provisions of PFF;
- f) verifying the identity of the voters (delegates) and their representation powers;
- g) monitoring the electoral and voting procedure, including taking decisions regarding the validity or invalidity of ballot papers, passing a definitive decision on any matters relating to the electoral procedure during the elective Congress and certifying the official results;
- h) any and all other tasks to ensure the smooth running of the electoral process.

The Electoral Committee may be assisted by the staff members of the general secretariat for any of these tasks, including the verification of the identity of the voters. FIFA and the AFC may provide advice and guidance to the Electoral Committee throughout the electoral process.

Article 3 Meetings, quorum and decisions

- ¹ The Electoral Committee shall not engage in valid debate unless a majority (more than 50%) of its members are present.
- ² The Electoral Committee shall reach its decisions by a majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast.
- ³ The decisions taken shall be recorded in minutes signed by all members of the Electoral Committee.

Article 4 Eligibility criteria

- ¹ The eligibility criteria for the positions to be filled within the PFF Executive Committee are defined in the relevant provisions of the PFF Constitution, in particular its articles 32 and 38.
- ² Candidates running for any position on the PFF Executive Committee shall provide the following documents and information as part of their application:
 - a) A copy of an official identification document (e.g. passport, ID card, diving licence, etc.) to facilitate their identification;
 - b) An indication of the position for which they are applying;
 - c) A copy of a Police character certificate that shows no conviction (cf. art. 32 par. 4 of the PFF Constitution);

- d) The required number of letters of support as per article 32 paragraph 2 of the PFF Constitution.
- ³ Candidates running for one of the eight positions on the PFF Executive Committee that represent the Provinces (cf. art. 32 par. 1 let c) of the PFF Constitution), must provide, as part of their application, a valid domicile certificate, or any other official document (e.g. CNIC) that is deemed sufficient by the Electoral committee to establish permanent residence in a particular province.
 - ⁴ Candidates running for one of the three positions on the PFF Executive Committee that represent the Services Organizations (cf. art. 32 par. 1 let d) of the PFF Constitution), must provide official documentary evidence confirming that they are members of such organisations.
 - ⁵ The requirement contained in article 32 paragraph 2 of the PFF Constitution must be fulfilled in writing. Each candidate for the position of PFF President shall provide written confirmation from at least five Congress members (individuals). Each candidate for the positions of vice-president and Executive Committee members shall provide written confirmation from at least one Congress member. If a Congress member is also a candidate in the elections, he/she may not provide such written confirmation for himself/herself. The identities and signatures of the relevant Congress members shall be verified by the Electoral committee. If a Congress member supports more than one candidate per position, none of his expressions of support shall be considered valid.
 - ⁶ Candidates running for the position of PFF president must provide documentary evidence in relation to article 38 paragraph 4 of the PFF Constitution. A person shall be considered to have been active in football management and organisation in the sense of the aforementioned provision, if they have held a formal role in the administration, governance or operational management of football at national, regional, league or club level or as a registered player. This includes in particular serving as an elected or appointed official in a PFF recognised football association, league or club or holding an executive, managerial or administrative position in football-related organisations that also need to be recognised by PFF. The Electoral Committee may ask for additional information or documents to establish that this particular requirement is fulfilled.
 - ⁷ The Electoral Committee shall not impose any eligibility criteria that are not provided for in the PFF Constitution or any other formal requirements that are not provided for in these Regulations. The Electoral Committee shall only request the documents that help establish whether the relevant eligibility criteria have been fulfilled. FIFA and the AFC may be consulted for guidance and advice in relation to any document provided by any of the candidates.

Article **5** **Submission and examination of candidatures**

- ¹ Candidatures for any of the positions on the PFF Executive Committee shall be sent by recorded post, by email with delivery notification, or delivered by hand in exchange for confirmation of receipt, to the general secretariat no later than ten days of the announcement of the elective Congress by the Electoral Committee. Candidatures received by the general secretariat shall immediately be forwarded to the Electoral Committee for appropriate handling.
- ² The candidatures shall be examined by the Electoral Committee within seven days of the deadline for their submission and the candidates shall be informed of the decision of the

Electoral Committee within the same period. During the course of this seven-day period, the Electoral Committee may request candidates to provide additional documents and/or information if it deems that the application is incomplete.

- ³ Candidates whose applications have been rejected by the Electoral Committee shall have four days, starting from the day on which the initial decision was communicated, to request a review of their application. Candidates must substantiate their request and provide additional documents if necessary. The Electoral Committee shall not consider any request for review that is submitted after the four-day deadline or lacks proper justification. The review shall be carried out within two days and a final decision shall be communicated within the same time frame. FIFA and the AFC may also be consulted for advice during this review process.
- ⁴ The decisions of the Electoral Committee may only be referred to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in accordance with the provisions of the PFF Constitution.

Article 6 Official list of candidates

The official list of candidates running for all positions within the PFF Executive Committee shall be communicated to the Members of PFF within the deadline stipulated under articles 32.5 and 38.5 of the PFF Constitution. An appropriate period of time shall be given to official candidates to run their election campaigns and for PFF Disciplinary Committee to review all complaints with due process provided for by the Appeals Committee before the electoral Congress takes place.

Article 7 Ballot papers

- ¹ The general secretariat shall produce the ballot papers under the supervision of the Electoral Committee. The ballot papers shall be printed clearly and legibly.
- ² The ballot papers shall be of a different colour for each position.

Article 8 Ballot box

- ¹ Before the start of the voting procedure, the ballot box – which shall be transparent if possible – shall be opened and presented to the delegates of the Congress. The ballot box shall then be closed and placed in a visible spot close to the members of the Electoral Committee.
- ² During the entire voting process, the ballot box shall be monitored by one of the members of the Electoral Committee.

Article 9 Casting and counting of ballots

- ¹ Before the delegates are requested to cast their vote, the chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall explain in detail the electoral procedure (ballot box, ballot papers, valid and invalid ballot papers, count, required majorities, results, etc.) and refer to the relevant statutory provisions.
- ² The elections shall take place as follows:
 - a) The chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall call in turn each delegate of the Members present and eligible to vote to move to the front of the Congress hall where the election is taking place;
 - b) Once called, the relevant delegate shall move to the front of the Congress hall and, after signing receipt of the ballot paper form, receive a ballot paper;
 - c) The delegate shall then complete the ballot paper in the polling booth designated for this purpose. The polling booth shall be placed in a visible spot, but still allow the delegate to cast his/her vote secretly. No mobile phones, cameras or any other recording devices shall be allowed in the polling booth;
 - d) The delegate shall then deposit the ballot paper in the ballot box, sign the electoral register and return to his/her seat.
- ³ The counting procedure shall begin as soon as all of the delegates have deposited their ballot papers in the ballot box. A member of the Electoral Committee shall open the ballot box and tip out the ballot papers in front of all the delegates.
- ⁴ The count shall then commence.
- ⁵ Only the members of the Electoral Committee shall take part in the count of the ballot papers. All operations (opening the ballot box(s), counting the ballot papers, counting the votes, etc.) shall be carried out in a way that can be followed clearly by all the delegates of the Congress.
- ⁶ In the event of a dispute regarding the validity or invalidity of a ballot paper or of a vote, the drafting of the minutes, the declaration of the results or any other matter relating to the counting procedure, the decision of the Electoral Committee shall be final.

Article **10** **Invalid ballot papers**

- ¹ The following ballot papers are considered invalid:
 - a) ballot papers that do not bear the official distinctive marks defined by the Electoral Committee;
 - b) ballot papers that bear any words other than the names of the candidates;
 - c) ballot papers that are illegible or have been defaced;
 - d) ballot papers that bear identifying marks.
- ² The chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall write on the back of any invalid ballot paper the reason(s) for its invalidity and confirm with a signature.

Article **11** **Spelling mistakes**

Spelling mistakes shall result in the invalidity of a vote only if they mean that it is not possible to identify with certainty any of the official candidates.

Article **12** **Count and declaration of results**

- ¹ Once the ballot box has been opened, the members of the Electoral Committee shall count the number of ballot papers and verify their validity. If the number of ballot papers is equal to or less than the number of ballot papers issued, the ballot is valid. If it exceeds the number of ballot papers issued, the ballot shall be declared void and recommence immediately in accordance with the procedure described above.
- ² After the number of ballot papers has been verified, the members of the Electoral Committee shall proceed to count the number of votes cast for each candidate.
- ³ If a second (or subsequent) round of voting is required, the voting procedure shall be repeated in accordance with the above articles. The Members are also to be informed of the statutory provisions that apply for the second (and subsequent) rounds of voting (e.g. any changes to the majority required, elimination of candidates, etc.).
- ⁴ After each round of the election, the chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall officially declare the results to the Members.
- ⁵ The General Secretary shall put the ballot papers that have been collected and counted into envelopes intended for this purpose. The envelopes shall then be signed by the chairperson of the Electoral Committee and sealed. The general secretariat shall keep these envelopes and destroy them 100 days after the Congress.

Article **13** **Matters not provided for herein**

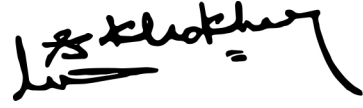
- ¹ All matters relating to the administrative and technical organisation of the elective Congress that are not covered by these Regulations or by the PFF Constitution shall be ruled upon by the Electoral Committee, whose decision shall be final.
- ² All matters relating to the running of the elections that are not covered by these Regulations or by the PFF Constitution shall be ruled upon by the Electoral Committee, whose decision shall be final.

Article **14** **Enforcement**

These Regulations were adopted by the PFF normalisation committee on 4th April 2025 and come into force immediately.



Saud Azim Hashimi, Chairman
PFF Normalisation Committee



Shahid Niaz Khokhar, Member
PFF Normalisation Committee