### **Statutes**

the

# SWISS ASSOCIATION OF FOOTBALL PLAYERS (of the SWISS ASSOCIATION) OF THE FOOTBALL PLAYERS)

# **ARTICLE 1**

# Objective, purpose, scope of tasks

The purpose of the **Swiss Association of Football Players** (the "Swiss Association of Football Players"), abbreviated to "SAFP"; hereinafter referred to as "the Association", a non-profit organisation, a trade union, is:

- in particular to promote, support, advise and represent professional football players and their interests in any way deemed appropriate;
- to support, advise and represent such football players and their interests vis-à-vis
  national and international sports associations, organisations and event organisers as
  well as football clubs and companies, sponsors and other persons and/or companies;
- to support, advise and represent footballers active in Switzerland who wish to play football abroad;
  - footballers active abroad who play football in Switzerland to support, advise and represent those who wish to do so;
- to serve as a forum for the exchange of any information related to football;
- the promotion of co-operation between its members at national and international level;
- to strengthen the promotion of young players and to help them move to higher leagues or other clubs, to support, advise and represent them;
- to orientate trade union action towards an active and qualitative employment policy and fair pay, working and living conditions;
  - the conclusion of collective labour agreements in the interests of employees and their representation in collective disputes;
- enforce the co-determination rights of employees at all levels The association

intends to achieve these objectives by means of, among other things

- Organising the Annual General Meeting and other events as well as seminars and events:
- Publication of information leaflets:



Membership of and/or cooperation with other institutions and organisations with similar or identical purposes;

- Organisation of annual training camps for players without contracts;
- Organisation of the annual election of the best players by the players themselves;
- Support, advice and representation of individual or all members, if possible in German, French, Italian or English.

#### **ARTICLE 2**

#### Language

The official language of the association is German. However, contact persons who speak French, Italian or English should be available to members.

Internationally, the language is English.

The terms used in the Articles of Association, such as player, president, chairman, secretary, etc., refer to both genders.

#### **ARTICLE 3**

# Head office, branch offices, secretariats

The Association has its registered office in Glattbrugg. It may also have offices and/or secretariats at other locations if this appears desirable.

#### **ARTICLE 4**

# Membership

Any natural person who plays football professionally, wants to play football professionally or has done so in the past can become a member of the association.

Amateur players or coaches can also be members of the club. However, amateur players, coaches and ex-players only have the right to vote if a matter specifically concerns only amateur players, coaches or ex-players.

Admission to the association is granted by the Board of Directors upon submission of the signed membership form to the Board of Directors.

A member can only be expelled from the Association after hearing the member concerned and with an absolute majority of the Executive Board, in particular if the member significantly impairs the purpose of the Association, the reputation of the members or repeatedly fails to pay the membership fees owed.

The decision of the Board of Directors can be referred to the General Meeting of Shareholders within 20 days.

may be appealed. The General Meeting then takes a final decision on this exclusion.

Resignation from the association can be made at any time by written declaration to the Executive Board.

If a member transfers to a foreign football club, he/she shall remain a member without written notification of his/her resignation and agrees that the information required for admission to the foreign players' union officially recognised by FIFPRO may be communicated to this partner organisation.

# **ARTICLE 5**

# Transfer of the collective image rights to the association

By signing the application form for membership, the member transfers the collective image and name rights for the duration of its membership (= those individual image and name rights of the member that are required for utilisation in a collection [in particular, for example, Panini in paper or digital form or in computer games] or any other form in which several players or several teams are grouped together and used jointly) to the association. This does not affect the exploitation rights to individual images and names, which therefore remain with the member. The association is authorised to use these collective image and name rights commercially in the interests of all members and to transfer them to third parties, in particular FIFPRO, for exploitation in order to finance the association's activities.

# **ARTICLE 5a**

Transfer of personal details and data

For the duration of membership, the Member agrees that his/her personal details and data may be communicated to foreign partner organisations officially recognised by FIFPRO and to FIFPRO itself.

# **ARTICLE 6**

**Organs** 

The bodies of the Association are the General Meeting, the Board of Directors and the Auditors.

D

#### **ARTICLE 7**

#### **General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting takes place in the first ten calendar months of the year.

Extraordinary General Meetings may be convened by the Board of Directors; it must do so if at least 5% of the members request it in writing.

The invitation is issued at least 7 days before the meeting, stating the business to be discussed.

The invitation is sent by e-mail.

The meeting can be held electronically via GoogleMeet or Teams etc.

#### **ARTICLE 8**

# **Powers of the General Meeting**

The General Meeting is authorised to deal with the following business:

- 1. Election of the Executive Board:
- 2. Appointment of the President and Vice President of the Board of Directors;
- 3. Issuance of the regulations;
- 4. Acceptance of the annual report and the annual accounts of the Association and the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of the Association as well as the discharge of the Board of Directors.
- 5. Amendment of the Articles of Association and the regulations as well as the dissolution of the Association;

# **ARTICLE 9**

### Rules of procedure of the General Meeting

The Chairman chairs the meeting. The Secretary takes the minutes.

The General Meeting passes resolutions by a simple majority of the votes cast. The Chairman has a casting vote. In the event of a tie, he shall cast the deciding vote.

Each member has one vote.

A team delegate can be appointed for each club in the Super League and Challenge League as well as the Womens' Super League and any other teams. If only the team delegate attends the meeting, he/she casts his/her vote for all members of his/her team. If one or more members of a team and the delegate of this team attend the meeting, the attending members have their own voting rights and the delegate votes for the players of his team who are not present.

The President and Vice President are elected individually by open ballot. Members may request a secret ballot for the President and Vice President. New Board members are elected by secret ballot. The re-election of members of the Board of Directors is carried out in globo as proposed by the Board of Directors, unless the meeting decides on individual elections. The Board of Directors briefly introduces the candidates proposed for re-election in an appropriate manner.

Resolutions on amendments to the Articles of Association and the regulations require the presence of at least 10% of the members and a majority of two-thirds of the votes present.

The dissolution of the Association can only be decided by a majority of two thirds of the members, either at the General Meeting or by way of a written ballot.

# **ARTICLE 10**

#### **Management Board**

The Executive Board consists of a maximum of seven members.

The members are elected by the ordinary General Meeting for a term of office of four years until the ordinary Annual General Meeting taking place at that time.

### **ARTICLE 11**

#### Powers of the Executive Board

The Executive Board represents the association externally. It deals with all business not assigned to the General Meeting by the Articles of Association, in particular

- 1. Admission and exclusion of members:
- 2. Safeguarding the interests of the members:
- 3. Mediation in disputes between members;
- 4. Determination of membership fees in accordance with Art. 15 of the Articles of Association;

The Board of Directors appoints one of its members as Secretary and one as Treasurer of the Association.

# **ARTICLE 12**

# Rules of procedure of the Executive Board

The Board of Directors generally meets once a month at the invitation of the Chairman. Additional meetings must be convened at the request of a member of the Board of Directors, stating the business to be discussed.

Resolutions require the presence of a majority of the Executive Board. The

R

The Board of Directors passes resolutions by a simple majority of the votes cast (exception: Art. 5 Para. 2 of the Articles of Association). The Chairman has a casting vote. He has the casting vote.

Board resolutions can also be passed in writing. This requires a simple majority of all Board members.

The Association's secretariat takes care of the Board's office business and keeps the minutes of meetings.

The Executive Board regulates the representation of the individual batches and the signatory powers.

The Board of Directors issues regulations on conflicts of interest and on the implementation of the dual control principle for payments and contract signatures.

### **ARTICLE 13**

#### Arbitration

The association's arbitration tribunal can be called upon to settle disputes between members.

This consists of three members, namely two members of the Executive Board and one member of the

Association. The Executive Board shall issue rules of arbitration.

# **ARTICLE 14**

#### **Auditors**

The auditors consist of a maximum of two members. They are elected by the Ordinary General Meeting for a term of office of one year or until the next Ordinary General Meeting. Re-election is permitted.

The auditors must carry out a detailed audit of the Association's annual financial statements and submit a written report on the results of their audit to the next ordinary General Meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 15**

### Membership fees

Each member pays an annual membership fee, which is determined by the Board of Directors and may be adjusted from time to time.

Membership fees paid will not be refunded if a member leaves the organisation.

# **ARTICLE 16**

# Liability

The Association's liabilities are covered solely by its assets.

Any personal liability of the members for the association's obligations is excluded.

#### **ARTICLE 17**

### Compensation

The Association shall indemnify all of its directors or officers, former directors or officers, and any other persons who have served at the request of the Association or by virtue of their appointment as a director or officer of any other entity, for all expenses incurred by such persons in connection with the bringing of any action, suit or other proceeding or the disposition of any such matter to which they have been made a party or are a party or by reason of their being or having been a director or officer of the Association or any other entity, except in connection with any matter to which such director or officer or former director or officer is or was a director or officer of the Association or any other entity, that they are or have been directors or officers of the Association or any other entity, except in connection with matters in which such director or officer or former director or officer or former officer or other person has been found guilty of wilful misconduct in the performance of their duties in connection with such action, suit or other proceeding and in matters which are governed by contract based on the existence of such liability.

#### **ARTICLE 18**

#### Dissolution of the association

In the event of the dissolution of the Association, the General Meeting shall decide on the retention of the archive.

After the dissolution of the association, the remaining active members must be assigned to an institution with the same or similar objectives. The distribution of the remaining assets among the members of the dissolved association is not permitted.



# **ARTICLE 19**

# Entry into force

These Articles of Association were adopted at the Annual General Meeting of the Association on 5 December 2024 and entered into force on that date.

Dr Lucien W.

den 5. deze ble 2r 2024

ValloniAngelo Stomeo