

UAE PL SAFETY & SECURITY MANUAL

SEASON 2023-2024



رابطة المحترفين الإماراتية
UAE PRO LEAGUE

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Definition of Terms

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and terms in these Regulations shall have the meaning assigned to each of them as follows:	
Country	The United Arab Emirates
FIFA	The Fédération Internationale de Football Association
AFC	The Asian Football Confederation
IFAB	The International Football Association Board
UAE FA	UAE Football Association
UAE PL	UAE Pro League
The Law	Federal Law No. (8) of 2014 regarding the security of Sports Facilities and Events.
The Executive Regulation	The Executive Regulation of the Federal Law No. (8) of 2014 regarding the security of Sports Facilities and Events.
The Competent Authority	Any of the Police General Headquarters in any Emirate that is competent on securing the sports facilities and events.
Sports Facilities	The stadia and their facilities that are used to hold sports events and manage them in the competitions organized or supervised by the UAE PL.
Sports Events	Football matches and sports events held in the Sports Facilities and organized or supervised by the UAE PL.
Match Organizer	The club hosting a match either in its own Sports Facility or in another Sports Facility (under an agreement between the club and the owner of this Sports Facility) or the UAE PL in the matches directly organized by them.
Accreditation Card	Any form of authorization issued by the UAE PL which grants its holder the right to be present in the access control areas (or parts of thereof).
Authorized Person	the person authorized to carry out certain activities within the official areas as per the accreditation card.

Police Commissioner	The Police member in charge of the supervision of the security of the course of the sports events.
Match Commissioner	The match official appointed by the UAE PL under these regulations and any other UAE PL relative regulations.
Access Control Officer	The person appointed by the UAE PL to control the enforcement of the UAE PL accreditation system and the security arrangements related to the Competition Matches according to these Regulations
Media Officer	the person appointed by the UAE PL to control the enforcement of the UAE PL Media Regulations as well as the T V Production and Broadcast of the UAE PL.
General Coordinator	The match officer appointed by the host club according to these Regulations.
Club Security Officer (Facility Security Officer)	The Security Person appointed by the club or the Sports Facility in compliance with the provisions of Law NO.8, its Executive Regulation and the relevant UAE PL Regulations.
Quality Control Procedures	The procedures that clubs must follow during the season regarding the competition, matches, events, and associated activities or events related to the competitions, as specified in the Competition Regulations or any of the UAE PL regulations, circulars, and decisions, for which a financial penalty is imposed for non-compliance.
Member Club	The club having membership in the UAE FA as per the Statutes
Club	The commercial body or football companies entitled to participate in the UAE PL's competition on behalf of the member club according to a written agreement between the parties thereto.
Participating Teams	teams participating in the competition under the authority of the Club and the UAE PL.
Circulars	Instructions or amendments related to these Regulations,

	notified to the Participating Clubs in the forms of official letters before or during the season, by the UAE PL.
Force Majeure or Sudden Incidents	Any unexpected incident that may not be avoided arising from a foreign cause that has no relation to the parties and which affects or could affect the enforcement of any articles herein, including but not limited to storms, floods, lightening, fire, explosions, earthquakes, structural damages, epidemic catastrophe, or any other natural disaster, wars, terrorist attacks or military actions, riot, chaos, strike, lockouts, industrial procedures or civil disobedience.
UAE Professional League (UAE PL)	is the body formed by virtue of the decision of the General Authority for Sports No. (1) of 2019, and consists of the Professional Clubs eligible to participate for the sports season 2023-2024, and is responsible for the organization, marketing and investment of the competitions thereof.
UAE PL Board of directors	It is the body elected by the UAE PL chaired by the UAE PL Chairman (FA vice-chairman) to perform the functions entrusted to it under the UAE PL Statutes.
The Technical Committee	the committee constituted by virtue of the resolution of the UAE PL Board of Directors, and which undertakes the tasks stipulated for herein in these regulations in accordance with the decision of its formation, and in coordination with the Competitions Committee in the UAE FA with regards to mutual matters.
The Executive Department of the UAE PL	is the administrative sections in charge of the implementation of the regulations and the resolutions issued by the UAE PL Board of directors and to supervise the organization of competitions and to coordinate among the subcommittees and the professional clubs
Regulations	all regulations and/or policies controlled and published by

	the U A E PL and/or the UAE FA in connection with the Competition, including but not limited to the UAE FA Statutes, UAE PL Statutes, Disciplinary Code, the Competition Regulations, UAE PL Stadia Regulations, UAE PL Equipment Regulations, UAE PL Youth Programme Regulations, UAE PL Accreditation Regulation, UAE PL Media Regulations, UAE PL Marketing Regulations, Safety and Security Manual, and the circulars issued by the UAE PL.
Match(es)	All football matches held in the framework of the ADNOC Pro League, ADIB Cup, UAE Super Cup and PL U21 including deferred or repeated matches.
Facilities	the official areas and press centers/facilities, tickets kiosks and hosting areas used in relation to the competition matches held by the UAE PL.
UAE PL Competition(es)	the ADNOC Pro League ,including the matches registered in the match schedule and the activities held on the field (in addition to matches) such as celebrations, media conferences, or other relative official activities.
Host club	the club first-mentioned in in any of the Competition matches registered in the match schedule.
Host Club and/or Host Stadium	the club or stadium chosen by the UAE PL or the clubs to host a match or more of the UAE PL Competitions' matches.
Access Control Areas	the locations of the Matches and other events, such as (without limitation) Stadium and their fences and perimeters, the aerial space above the stadium, and all other locations associated with the Competition, including the Facility Areas, media centers, hospitality and VIP areas and facilities, other areas to which admission is regulation by the UAE PL Accreditation Regulations.
League Season	the period from the first football match organized under the auspices of the UAE PL (either in the Super Cup, ADIB Cup or the

	ADNOC Pro League, or the PL U21) until the last football match organized by the UAE PL (either in the Super Cup, ADIB Cup or (the ADNOC Pro League or the PL U21
Official Match Countdown List	The list containing events and activities approved by the UAE PL which start 3 hours before match kick-off and finishes at least one hour after the final whistle. This list contains the activities and the time allocated for each activity.
Ground Roles	the Roles imposed by the UAE PL in Appendix (9) of its Stadia Regulations.
Volunteers	Are the people appointed by the UAE PL or the clubs to ,accomplish certain duties related to pre-match ceremonies cooperation in match organization and crowd management as well as to support in fans seating.
List of Prohibited Items	The list of items which spectators are prohibited from taking into any stadia used for any Competition Match, which shall be periodically communicated to Participating Clubs.
CCTV Cameras	Still or moving cameras installed to monitor the crowds, the entrances to the stadium, the roads leading to the gates and all access control areas inside the stadium.
Control Room	A room dedicated for coordination on all measures relating to the safety, security and services in general and in emergencies.
Public Address System	Electronic loudspeakers system capable of delivering voice messages clearly and immediately to all the fans.
Public Authorities	All national or local authorities responsible for the safety and security matters (the competent authority, first aid and medical services, travel services, civil defense, etc.).
Private Security Companies	Companies licensed in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Law No. (37) of 2006.
Private Security Personnel	The security staff of the private security companies.
Security of Sports Facilities	Securing the approved places and facilities against internal and

	external threats. This includes visitors, equipment and buildings used to run and manage sports events.
Security of Sports Events	To provide a means of security and safety for each activity or sports event held in the approved sports facilities.
Event's Organizers	All persons appointed by the match organizer to help ensure the completion of the match without any incidents relating to safety and services.
Health Authority	UAE Ministry of Health or any other federal or local health organization within the UAE.

SECTION (1): GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. SCOPE OF APPLICATION

- 1.1 This Manual is applicable in cases explicitly referred to in the UAE PL Regulations.
- 1.2 This manual regulates the organizational procedures aimed at ensuring the security and safety of the sports facility and the surrounding area, before, during and after each match in the competition concerned.
- 1.3 This Manual does not constitute an exhaustive list of regulatory actions to be followed in the match by the organizers and clubs,
- 1.4 This Manual does not conflict with or affect the legal obligations arising from the local legislation and/or federal regulations. In the case of incompatibility, reference is made to the local and/or federal legislations and laws.

2. The purpose of the Manual

- 2.1 The aim of these regulations is to make the match organizer, participating clubs and the fans aware of their duties and responsibilities before, during and after a match in order to safeguard the safety and security of everyone present, as well as of the stadium and its facilities.
- 2.2 Safeguard the security of sports facilities and events especially with regard to the protection and security of the fans inside the sports facilities and during the sports events of UAE PL competitions.
- 2.3 Coordination and building a common understanding among the competent authority, the Sports Facility and the organizer of sports events.
- 2.4 The development of safety levels in the sports facilities and events organized by the UAE PL, and enhance the level of security and increase its efficiency.

3. Club Security Officer (Facility Security Officer):

- 3.1 Each club must appoint a security officer in accordance with the UAE Club Licensing Regulations as well as the agreed upon requirements and procedures. The Club Security Officer (Facility Security Officer) is responsible for all duties and responsibilities stipulated in Articles No. (15-16) of the Executive Regulation of the

Federal Law No. (8) of the year 2014, and the relevant requirements of UAE Club Licensing Regulations of the UAE PL

3.2 The main responsibilities for the Security Officer are those stated in the Executive Regulation of the Federal Law NO.8 of the year 2014 on the Security of Sports Facilities and Events, in addition to the following:

3.2.1 Be responsible for the safety and security of the sports facility he is supervising,

3.2.2 Prepare a security plan for each match and have it approved by the Police Commissioner appointed by the competent authority. The security plan must include at least the following details:

3.2.2.1 A site map for the sport facility showing all emergency exits as well as all fans' entrances and exits, the approved percentage of stadium capacity allocated for the visiting team fans, main facilities such as F&B selling points, ticket booths, fans clinic, VVIP, VIP and Media parking.

3.2.2.2 The responsibilities and scope of work of the Private Security Company,

3.2.2.3 Number of private security personnel and stewards, and their distribution plan

3.2.2.4 Gate numbers for Home team and Visiting Team fans,

3.2.2.5 Ground Roles and List of Prohibited Items,

3.2.2.6 Fans segregation strategy,

3.2.2.7 emergency evacuation plan after having it approved by the competent authority and the civil defense,

3.2.2.8 Public medical services and emergency contact details and mechanism

3.2.2.9 contact details of the people in charge of the safety and security at the facility.

3.2.3 The club shall send the security plan for each match to the Executive Department for approval, to the following email address:

sec.saf@uaeproleague.ae. The plan must be sent no less than 72 hours of the match kick-off time. In case of non-adherence, the club will be penalized in accordance with the QCP procedures.

- 3.2.4 Notwithstanding item (c) hereinabove, the UAE PL has the right to request amendments to the security plan submitted by the club according to the importance and sensitivity of certain matches.
- 3.2.5 keep in close touch with supporters and familiarize himself with their customs and preferences;
- 3.2.6 Endeavor to compile – in cooperation with the police commissioner– a record of all known troublemakers to be used when liaising with fellow security coordinators of other clubs, supporters' clubs, etc. in connection with both home and away matches.
- 3.2.7 The Security Officer appointed by the club shall have good experience in the security management of matches with regards to safety and security in football stadia. He should also have good experience in crowd management, facility management and ticketing systems.

4. The Relationship with the supporters

- 1.4 Clubs must foster and encourage a good relationship with their supporters by:
 - 4.1 Encouraging them to develop and maintain close cooperation with the club in question;
 - 4.2 A Supporters Liaison Officer may be appointed to help manage and inform spectators at matches and to accompany parties of supporters traveling to away fixtures;
 - 4.3 Generally keeping in touch with them by newsletter and any other suitable means of communication.
- 2.4 Supporters' clubs must be required by clubs to insist upon good behavioral standards from their members and to cancel the membership of any person who does not abide by the Federal Law No. (8) and its Executive Regulation, as well as the laws and regulations in force in the United Arab Emirates.

SECTION (2): COOPERATION

5. Duty to cooperate with the Public Authorities

- 5.1 Suitably in advance of the match, the match organizer must prepare for the match through coordination meetings between the Facility Security Officer or the Event Security Officer (where applicable) and the Police Commissioner to ensure that the measures laid down in the Executive Regulation of Federal Law No. (8) of 2014 and the provisions of these regulations will be implemented.
- 5.2 The match organizer and the participating clubs, in coordination and cooperation with competent authorities, must do everything within their power to prevent troublemakers from attending the matches.

6. Private Safety& Security Personnel

- 6.1 In accordance with the provisions of article (3) of the Executive Regulations of Federal Law No. (8), Club Licensing Regulations and UAE PL competitions regulations, the match organizer shall appoint safety and security personnel& stewards from private companies whose role is to maintain security and order in the matches.
- 6.2 The match organizer in coordination with the police commissioner, must ensure that there are sufficient safety and security personnel (male and female) with a sufficient number of Arabic speaking personnel in accordance with the importance of the match and the venue where it is held, to ensure the safety of the general public, the match participants and match officials, and to counter any possible outbreaks of violence or public disorder within the stadium, in its surrounding environs and along the routes leading to and from the stadium.
- 6.3 The private security personnel and the stewards shall be wearing identifiable bibs in fluorescent colors (yellow or orange) above their approved uniform. These bibs shall carry clear numbers on the back, and shall have the job title (i.e. private security, steward) so that they are easily identifiable and recognized.

- 6.4 In coordination with the Facility Security Officer, Private security personnel shall adhere to the security plan in accordance to the safety and security requirements and the match official countdown.
- 6.5 Match organizer must contract private security companies in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in article (30) of the Executive Regulation of the Federal Law No. (8) of 2014.
- 6.6 Match organizer shall fulfill club licensing requirements by ensuring the attendance of representatives of the approved private security company to the workshops organized by the UAE PL.

7. Emergency Liaison Group

- 7.1 The match organizer must establish a liaison group for each match which includes:
 - 7.1.1 The match organizer,
 - 7.1.2 Police Commissioner,
 - 7.1.3 A representative of the Department of Civil Defense,
 - 7.1.4 A representative of the private security company,
 - 7.1.5 Facility Security Officer/ Event Security Officer (where applicable).
 - 7.1.6 UAE PL Officials (match commissioner/ access control officer).
 - 7.1.7 In emergency cases, the team will meet in the security control room.
 - 7.1.8 The members of the liaison group must be given a coded call sign, which will be broadcast over the public address system or the giant screen for summoning them to the agreed meeting place.
 - 7.1.9 The emergency liaison group is entitled to take exceptional decisions in cases related to the safety and security of the fans.

8. Spectator Segregation and Crowd Dispersal Strategy

- 8.1 Match organizer must coordinate with the Police Commissioner to put a strategy for the segregation of fans and car park (if possible).
- 8.2 The broad outlines of the crowd dispersal strategy (after the match) should be discussed in the coordination meeting before and/or on the match day, with the possibility of an amendment in accordance with the latest developments.

9. Stadium Inspection

- 9.1 The match organizer must ensure that the match stadium has been thoroughly inspected throughout by the public authorities concerned and by the private security companies' personnel.
- 9.2 The facility safety certificate shall be valid for a period not exceeding two (2) years from the date of issuance of the certificate. In addition, a copy of this certificate must be placed in the security control room.

10. Medical Services for the Spectators

- 10.1 The match organizer shall provide first aid medical services at the stadium. Qualifications of the medical staff responsible for the provision of medical services and first aid to the spectators must be approved by both the public body competent to issue permits to practice the medical profession in the Country and the PLC.
- 10.2 The UAE PL shall determine the number of necessary ambulance cars to be present in the venue on match day in accordance with the UAE PL relative regulations.
- 10.3 The Medical staff must be easily identifiable by wearing a special uniform and/or accreditation cards.

SECTION (3): TICKETS

11. Ticket Sales

- 11.1 Ticket sales must be subject to strict control.
- 11.2 Tickets must be sold through the approved online ticketing platform in the designated points at the stadium and/or anywhere else on match day, only by mutual agreement of the UAE PL and the Police Commissioner.

12. Ticket Allocation

- 12.1 Each participating club is responsible for ensuring that these tickets are allocated only among its own supporters.
- 12.2 Match organizers and participating clubs to which tickets have been allocated will be held entirely responsible if any tickets are found on the illicit market or in the hands of unauthorized individuals or agencies.

13. Ticket Allocation Strategy

- 13.1 Match organizer must ensure ticket allocation in a manner that ensures proper segregation of groups of fans, taking into account the possibility of the presence of three groups of fans in the matches. Such as the fans of each of the two teams, as well as neutral fans.
- 13.2 As part of the segregation arrangements, the potential fans must be informed of the following:
 - 13.2.1 The stadium sectors for which they can buy tickets,
 - 13.2.2 If the fan moved to a sector other than the specified sector, the match organizer in coordination with the Facility Security Officer may decide to remove this fan outside the stadium.

14. Illicit market and Anti-counterfeit Measures

- 14.1 The match organizer shall discuss with the competent public authorities what action to take against illicit-market ticket-sellers around the stadium, particularly bearing in mind that such activities can jeopardize the segregation strategy.
- 14.2 Such action can consist in limiting the number of tickets sold per person.

- 14.3 The most sophisticated anti-counterfeit measures must be incorporated into match tickets, and all security personnel on duty in and around the stadium must be familiar with these measures, to facilitate the rapid identification of counterfeit tickets.
- 14.4 As soon as the match organizer becomes aware that counterfeit tickets may be in circulation, they must consult with the responsible persons to develop an agreed strategy to deal with the problem.

15. Ticket Quotas and Prices

- 15.1 The clubs concerned must adhere to ticket quotas mechanism according to the relevant regulations of the UAE PL.
- 15.2 Even if the segregated area of the stadium for visiting supporters constitutes more than 10% of the total stadium capacity, all places in the segregated area must be made available to the visiting club.
- 15.3 The price of tickets for supporters of the visiting team must not exceed the price paid for tickets of a comparable category that are sold to supporters of the home team.
- 15.4 Tickets quotas allocation at each stadium depends on the approved capacity of that stadium.

16. Information on Tickets

- 16.1 Tickets must provide holders with all the information they may need, i.e. the name of the competition, the names of the participating teams, the date and kick-off time, gates opening time, and a clear seat location indication (sector, row, seat number).
- 16.2 Tickets must include a sequence number for the seat, sector (or division), and the gate.

SECTION (4): SAFETY OF THE VISITING TEAM AND MATCH OFFICIALS

17. Safety of the Home Team and the Visiting Team

- 17.1 The match organizer must do everything possible to ensure the safety of the Home team and the Visiting team and their officials during arrival and departure from the stadium after the match. For matters related to the safety and security, players of both teams shall arrive to the stadium and leave the stadium by the team bus.

18. Safety of Match Officials

- 18.1 The match organizer must do everything possible to ensure the safety of match officials (referees and UAE PL officials), since their arrival until departure from the stadium after the match.

SECTION (5): Admission of Spectators to the Stadium

19. Checking and Guarding of the Stadium

19.1 The Match Organization must ensure that:

19.1.1 The stadium is guarded against unauthorized intrusion on match day in accordance with the approved match countdown list;

19.1.2 Private Security Personnel Must perform an efficient security sweep of the stadium – to ensure the integrity of the seats and to search for unauthorized persons or any signs containing offensive, racial, political or religious messages, or prohibited objects/substances, according to the list approved by the Ministry of Interior and the list of prohibited items approved by the UAE PL- as in appendix (B).

20. Segregation of Spectators

20.1 If the circumstances so require, the segregation of the different groups of supporters must begin as far from the stadium as possible, to safeguard against the mixing of the various groups in the stadium approaches or turnstile areas.

20.2 Separate car and bus parks, preferably on different sides of the stadium must be provided for the various groups of supporters.

21. Information for Spectators

21.1 The match organizer must remind spectators- through any available communications means- of the importance of not attempting to take prohibited items or substances into the stadium, and of the need to behave in a sporting and reasonably restrained manner In addition, the match organizer must also remind the spectators of the potentially serious consequences any breach of these obligations could have for the players and teams they support.

22. Presence of Safety and Security Personnel& Stewards

22.1 Safety and security personnel and stewards must be in their allotted positions at least three (3) hours prior to the match kick-off, in and around the stadium before the stadium is opened to the public.

23. Opening of the Stadium Gates to Spectators

23.1 The match organizer, together with the Police Commissioner and the Facility Security Officer, should adhere to the specified time at which the stadium gates should be opened to spectators in accordance with the official countdown, and as stipulated in the competent regulations. However, gates may be opened before the specified time taking into account the following criteria:

- 23.1.1 Anticipated number of spectators;
- 23.1.2 Expected time of arrival at the stadium of the different groups of spectators;
- 23.1.3 Entertainment of spectators in the stadium (entertainment on the playing field, refreshment possibilities, etc.);
- 23.1.4 Space available outside the stadium;
- 23.1.5 Possibility for entertainment outside the stadium;
- 23.1.6 Segregation strategy outside the stadium.

24. Signposting

- 24.1 Where the ticketing system is color-coded to match the sector layout, the appropriate colors must be displayed on all signs guiding the spectators to the various sectors of the stadium.
- 24.2 The match organizer must place all the signboards in accordance with the Stadia Regulations.

25. Safety and Security Personnel & Stewards

- 25.1 Electronic and non-electronic access control systems, turnstiles and entry or exit doors or gates must be operational and staffed by properly trained safety and security personnel and/or stewards.
- 25.2 Adequate safety and security personnel and stewards must be available at all approaches to the stadium, electronic and non-electronic gates, at the turnstiles, and throughout the interior of the stadium.

- 25.3 Sufficient and properly trained private security personnel, stewards and/ or volunteers must be on duty within the stadium to ensure that spectators are directed to their seats efficiently and smoothly without delay and confusion.
- 25.4 Safety and security personnel and stewards should be familiar with the layout of the stadium and with its safety, emergency and evacuation procedures.
- 25.5 Private security personnel shall also preform the following tasks:
 - 25.5.1 Perform an inspection of the facility, but not limited to (the integrity of spectator's seats) and testing of safety equipment before the match.
 - 25.5.2 Public inspection upon entry into the stadium in search of any prohibited items.
 - 25.5.3 Controlling the crowds and channeling public when leaving the stadium and assisting in organizing the process of leaving the stadium.
 - 25.5.4 Be aware of the overcrowding cases and ensure a safe disperse of the crowd to avoid overcrowding.
 - 25.5.5 Assistance in providing emergency services if necessary.
 - 25.5.6 Provide first aid in emergencies.
 - 25.5.7 Rapid intervention in emergencies (such as fire) by raising the alarm and take immediate action.
 - 25.5.8 Any duties and/or functions that may be required by the Police Commissioner of the Facility Security Officer and/ or the Event Security Officer (if present).
 - 25.5.9 Maintain entry and exit corridors free of obstructions.
 - 25.5.10 Determining, investigating and reporting the facts to the Facility Security Officer.
 - 25.5.11 Report of suspect parcels and any hazardous materials that may cause fires.
 - 25.5.12 Assist in the prevention of any breaking into the field of play.
 - 25.5.13 Apply the accreditation system in accordance with the concerned regulation, by monitoring accreditation cards holders at the access points to and from (the external perimeters of the stadium, field of play, official

areas, media facilities, OB van area and gates for fans, the media and the VIPs).

26. Screening and Searching of Spectators

- 26.1 Match organizer must take all necessary measurements to ensure that spectators will be screened initially by safety and security personnel at the external perimeter to ensure that only ticket-holders and accreditation cards approach the turnstiles and to make the first checks to prevent the introduction of prohibited objects/substances into the stadium.
- 26.2 According to the outline of the stadium, the final examination and inspection should be performed by private security companies outside the stadium, which is the better option, or within the stadium after the entry gates to ensure the following:
 - 26.2.1 Spectators enter the correct part of the stadium.
 - 26.2.2 Spectators do not bring any prohibited items.
- 26.3 Screening and searches must be carried out sensibly and effectively to ensure that spectators are not searched more than once (except in exceptional circumstances, for example a terrorist threat, according to the discretion of the Police Commissioner).
- 26.4 Each spectator shall be screened and searched by a member of the safety and security personnel of the same sex. The club must ensure that female security personnel are present at all entry gates.

27. Expulsion or Refusal of Entry

- 27.1 The match organizer and private security personnel must ensure that any person refused entry to the stadium for any reason, or who has been expelled from the stadium, is not admitted or re-admitted thereafter, and that the person in question is kept well away from the stadium during the match, at least until all spectators have dispersed.

28. Cheering instruments

- 28.1 For the sole purpose of cheering their team, fans of participating clubs are allowed to use percussion instruments and loudspeakers into the stadium according to the mechanism approved by the Executive Department of the UAE PL, as circulated and/or updated before or during the sports season.
- 28.2 The loudspeaker and/or the instruments may not be attached to any electronic devices or electrical cables, and the sounds produced must not be amplified (loudspeakers power shall not exceed 45 Watts)
- 28.3 The loudspeaker and percussion instruments may only be used in the stands for second category ticket holders only. In all cases, loudspeakers shall be opposite to the stand or behind the goals.
- 28.4 In case of any violation, a fine will be imposed on the club in accordance with the Quality Control Procedures.
- 28.5 The match organizer has the right to request the refusal to use loudspeaker or cheering instruments at a certain stadium, after having submitted an official request to the Executive Administration of the UAE PL. The request should include an independent report or document that proves that the use of the loudspeaker(s) and/or percussion instruments will affect the safety and security organization of the stadium, or may negatively affect the surrounding community. The decision on the refusal of entry of such instruments will be applied on all matches for that club at that stadium for the season.
- 28.6 Notwithstanding the above, the Executive Administration of the UAE PL or the Police Commissioner or the private security personnel have the right to unilaterally prohibit the use of the instruments if the sounds or noises made are affecting referees' performance or any messages that express censure to any of the two teams, the referees or any of the game's elements or safety and security organization.
- 28.7 Each club is be responsible for the behavior of their fans and spectators, and the use of the loudspeakers and/or the percussion instruments. The club is also responsible for any insulting chants or the use of any words, slogans or racist acts or language

or the use of any vulgar words by its fans any messages that express censure to any of the two teams, the referees or any of the game's elements.

SECTION (6): SPECTATOR CONTROL AT THE STADIUM

29. Presence of Safety and Security Personnel & Stewards

29.1 Safety and security personnel, stewards, first-aiders, medical and civil defense personnel, and also the public address announcer(s), must remain in their allotted positions in and around the stadium for the entire time that the public is in the stadium and until the crowd has dispersed, in accordance with the instructions of the Police Commissioner and the Facility Security Officer.

30. Alcohol / Smoking

30.1 The match organizer must ensure that no sale or distribution of alcohol/ smoking is permitted within the stadium or the general access areas of the stadium or the surrounding areas.

31. Limitation of Spectator Movement

- 31.1 The match organizer must take measures to ensure that spectators cannot move from one sector to another.
- 31.2 If it is necessary to have more than one group of spectators in a particular sector, a division must be maintained between them by means of a «no-go area» kept free of spectators and occupied only by safety and security personnel. Segregation netting may be used to reinforce the division. Where a barrier or fence controlled by safety and security personnel is to be used for the division, this must be a fixed and solid structure. The use of temporary fencing is not permitted.

32. Public Passageways

32.1 The match organizer must take all possible measures to ensure that all public passageways, corridors, stairs, doors, gates and emergency exit routes are kept free of any obstructions, which could impede the free flow of spectators.

33. Doors and Gates

33.1 The match organizer must take all necessary measures to ensure the following:

- 33.1.1 All electronic and non-electronic doors and gates are operating correctly, and each block of doors and gates is attended by a specially appointed private security;
- 33.1.2 All other exit doors and gates in the stadium, and all gates leading from the spectator areas into the playing area, remain unlocked while spectators are in the stadium;
- 33.1.3 Each of these doors and gates is attended at all times by a specially appointed private security, to guard against abuse and ensure immediate escape routes in the event of an emergency evacuation;
- 33.1.4 None of these doors or gates may be locked with a key under any circumstances.

34. Protection of the Playing Area

- 34.1 The match organizer must ensure that players and match officials are protected against the intrusion of spectators into the playing area. This may be accomplished in various ways, including, for example:
 - 34.1.1 The presence of safety and security personnel in or near the playing area;
 - 34.1.2 Take necessary measures to prevent the fans in the front rows of breaking into the pitch.
- 34.2 Whatever the type of protection used to prevent breaking into the pitch, this protection must ensure a smooth escape for fans to the pitch in emergencies.
- 34.3 The type of protection used must be approved by the Police Commissioner, and must not represent any danger to spectators in cases of emergency evacuation.

35. Closed-circuit Television System (CCTV)

- 35.1 The match organizer must ensure fulfilling the CCTV requirements as per the Stadia Regulations.
- 35.2 The stadium's closed-circuit television system must be used by the Police Commissioner and the Facility Security Officer to monitor spectators and all the stadium's approaches and entrances, as well as all viewing areas within the stadium.

- 35.3 The system must be managed and controlled from the control room by the responsible persons.
- 35.4 Signs showing that the area is under CCTV monitoring should be placed in such areas, in a clear and visible place.

36. Public Address System, Announcers and Announcements

- 36.1 The stadium's public address system must be capable of being heard clearly both inside and outside the stadium, above the crowd noise, even in the case of a sudden upsurge in spectators' noise levels.
- 36.2 Trained announcers who are capable of addressing spectators of both teams must be available. If possible, an announcer who is capable of addressing spectators in Arabic and in English shall be used.
- 36.3 Announcements over the public address system must be of a strictly neutral character. The public address system must not be used for the following:
 - 36.3.1 The dissemination of political messages;
 - 36.3.2 To support the home team;
 - 36.3.3 For any form of discrimination against the visiting team.
 - 36.3.4 Any commercial and/or promotional purposes.

37. Provocative Behavior and Racism

- 37.1 The match organizer, together with the private security personnel, must prevent any provocative action being taken by spectators inside or in the immediate vicinity of the stadium (racist and discriminatory behavior, unacceptable levels of verbal provocation from spectators towards players or opposing fans, provocative banners or flags, etc.).
- 37.2 Should such action arise, the match organizer in coordination with the Police Commissioner, must request the private security personnel to intervene or, depending on risk assessment, to consider the removal of any offensive material.
- 37.3 Security personnel must draw the attention of the control room to any serious acts of misconduct, including racist insults; so that offenders may be removed from the stadium should the Facility Security Officer so decide.

- 37.4 The match organizer must implement the three-step protocol to deal with incidents of a racist or discriminatory nature (see Annex A).

38. Retention of Supporters within the Stadium

- 38.1 If the Police Commissioner decide that, for security reasons, a group of supporters should be retained within the stadium for a period of time while other supporters disperse, the following principles must be observed:
- 38.1.1 The decision to retain a group of supporters must be announced over the public address system in Arabic and English;
 - 38.1.2 The announcement must be repeated shortly before the end of the match;
 - 38.1.3 The match organizer must ensure that, during this period of retention, the retained supporters have access to drinking water and sanitary facilities;
 - 38.1.4 They must be informed regularly of how much longer they may have to wait before being allowed to leave the stadium.

SECTION (7): FINAL PROVISIONS

39. Authoritative Text

1.39 In the event of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English or Arabic versions of these regulations, the Arabic version shall prevail.

40. Annex

40.1 The annex to these regulations forms an integral part thereof.

41. Disciplinary Procedures

41.1 Any breach of these regulations may be penalized in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations of the UAE FA and/ or the Quality Control Procedures of the UAE PL, and/or the national and local laws and regulations.

42. Adoption and Entry into Force

42.1 These regulations were prepared and set by the Executive Department of the UAE PL and ratified by the UAE PL Board.

42.2 They come into force as of 23/06/2023.

ANNEX A: THREE-STEP PROTOCOL TO DEAL WITH INCIDENTS OF A RACIST OR DISCRIMINATORY NATURE

This protocol empowers the referee to request the Match Commissioner to inform the public address announcer to ask the fans through an announcement, to stop such conduct and warn that the game will be suspended and subsequently abandoned should such unacceptable behavior continue. The procedure is as follows:

First Step: If the referee becomes aware of serious racist or discriminatory behavior, or is informed of it by the fourth official, he shall, as a first step, halt the game and ask for an announcement to be made requesting the public to immediately desist from such behavior.

Second Step: if the behavior does not cease once the game has restarted, the referee shall suspend the match for a maximum of 15 minutes, and ask the teams go to the dressing rooms. A further announcement shall be made to the public.

Third and Final Step: if the conduct does not end after the game has then resumed, the referee shall definitively abandon the match as a last resort. The Match Commissioner will assist the referee, through the fourth official, in determining whether the behavior has stopped. And decision to abandon the match will only be taken after all other possible measures have been implemented and the impact of abandoning the match on the security of the players and public has been assessed through coordination among all concerned parties with regards to the safety and security measures.

ANNEX (B): List of Prohibited Items:

The match organizer shall place two large signboards, one in Arabic and the other in English, at every gate of the stadium, containing the list of prohibited items approved by the UAE PL.



PROHIBITED ITEMS



No weapons.



No laser pointers.



No glass bottles, cups or cans. Only open plastic cups are allowed.



No chemistry gas spray cans, corrosives or anything that could cause fire or harm.



No recording of sound, images or footage other than for private use.



No fireworks.



No alcohol or drugs.



No standing on seats or in vomitories.



No racist or xenophobic material e.g. t-shirts or flags.



No excessive noise, hooters or gas-powered horns. One megaphones are allowed maximum 45W.



No entering the pitch or area around the pitch.



No animals.



Flag Poles materials e.g. wood or metal. "Allowed Rubber or light Plastic"



No objects, which could compromise public safety.



No promotional or commercial material.



No umbrellas or selfie stick.



All balls of any kind.



No paper roll.



Country's Flag are not permitted within the stadiums with the exception of the UAE National flag.

STADIUM CONDUCT



Arrive at least 2 hours early to avoid disappointment.



Produce your ticket when requested to do so.



Only sit in the seat indicated on your ticket.



Co-operate during security inspections and body checks.



Stay out of restricted areas within the stadium.



Keep all access stairways and emergency exits clear at all times.



No smoking.



Co-operate when asked to move seats other than those allocated for security reasons.