



# REGULATIONS

This is the Qualifying Tournament for the FIFA Confederations Cup  
Russia 2017 and the 2016 Copa America Centenario



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**\*Special acknowledgment to the Canadian Soccer Association for hosting one of the Championship matches**

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## GENERAL PROVISIONS

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### I. THE CONCACAF GOLD CUP™

1. The CONCACAF Gold Cup™ (hereinafter: the Competition) is an official CONCACAF competition embodied in the CONCACAF Statutes.
2. The competition is played every two years (odd years) and shall take place when and where the CONCACAF Executive Committee determines.
3. The Competition is free of charge and open to all CONCACAF affiliated Member Associations. The Member Associations are required to participate with their “A” national team.
4. The Competition shall be played in two stages:
  - a. The Preliminary Competition (see Art. II) and the Final Competition (see Final Competition section);
  - b. The Preliminary Competition shall be played among the national teams of the Member Associations of each CONCACAF zone;
  - c. The matches in the Preliminary Competition shall be organized by CONCACAF’s Unions;
  - d. CONCACAF shall be responsible for organizing, hosting and staging the Final Competition of the Gold Cup;
  - e. The Final Competition shall be played among the national teams of twelve (12) CONCACAF Member Associations.
5. The Competition serves as the qualifying tournament for the FIFA Confederations Cup (FCC) as follows:
  - If the same Member Association wins both the 2013 and 2015 editions of the Gold Cup, then they will automatically qualify for the FCC 2017;
  - If a different Member Association wins the Gold Cup 2015, then the CONCACAF representative for the FCC 2017 will be determined by a single playoff match between the winner of Gold Cup 2013 and the winner of Gold Cup 2015, time and place of such match to be determined.
  - Notwithstanding the aforementioned, only Member Associations affiliated to CONCACAF that are eligible to compete in the FCC 2017 shall be permitted to advance from this competition.
  - Should the winner of the 2015 Gold Cup be a NON-FIFA member, then the second place shall advance. If the winner and second place

teams are NON-FIFA members, then the third or fourth place team, if necessary shall advance.

6. The Gold Cup 2015 will also serve as the qualifying tournament for the special edition 2016 Copa America Centenario as follows:
  - The automatic berths for the 2016 Copa America Centenario are as follows:
    - < Team 1: USA (Host)
    - < Team 2: Mexico (Seeded)
    - < Team 3: Winner of the 2014 UNCAF Nations Cup
    - < Team 4: Winner of the 2014 CFU Caribbean Cup
  - The winner of the 2015 Gold Cup, if different from the automatic berth stated above shall also have automatic berth to the 2016 Copa America Centenario. If this is the case, then the next two best performing teams that do not have an automatic berth, shall define the final spot in a single PLAY-OFF game on a date to be determined by CONCACAF, for the final qualifying spot to the Copa America Centenario
  - Should the 2015 Gold Cup winner already BE one of the teams with automatic berth to the 2016 Copa America Centenario mentioned above, the next best four performers that do not have automatic berths shall be ranked and paired for a single play-off game in a double header on a date to be determined by CONCACAF
  - The ranking of the teams shall be done in accordance with their overall performance at the 2015 Gold Cup with the highest ranked pairing with the lowest ranked and second pairing with third.
7. Any rights that are not ceded by these Regulations to the Hosting Association or any participating Member Association or any other party shall exclusively belong to CONCACAF.
8. These Regulations for the 2015 CONCACAF Gold Cup™ (hereinafter: the Regulations) regulate the rights, duties and responsibilities of all taking part in the Competition. The Regulations, the CONCACAF Statutes and all other CONCACAF rules, regulations, circulars, directives and decisions in force shall apply and are binding on all participating Member Associations and their respective national teams and on all persons involved in the preparation, organization and hosting of the Competition.

## **II. PRELIMINARY COMPETITION**

1. The organization of the Preliminary Competitions is assigned to the Unions in accordance with the CONCACAF Statutes.
2. The Unions are required to draw up regulations and competition format for the Preliminary Competitions and to submit them to CONCACAF for approval at least 6 months before the start of each Preliminary Competition.
3. Upon entering the Preliminary Competition, all Member Associations automatically undertake to accept that all administrative and refereeing matters related to such Preliminary Competition shall be dealt with by the respective Union in compliance with the submitted and approved regulations. CONCACAF will only intervene in matters in which a Union requests CONCACAF's assistance.
4. Upon entering the Preliminary Competition, all Member Associations automatically undertake to accept that all disciplinary and appeals matters (e.g. sanctions, procedures, etc.) will be dealt with in accordance with the submitted and approved regulations.

## **III. THE CONCACAF GOLD CUP™ COMMITTEE**

1. The CONCACAF Gold Cup™ Committee (hereinafter: Gold Cup Committee) appointed by the CONCACAF Executive Committee is responsible for the organization of the competition. The CONCACAF Executive Committee retains the right for all final decisions.
2. The Gold Cup Committee shall, amongst other matters, be responsible for:
  - a. Supervising general preparations, taking other tournaments, geographic and economic factors into consideration;
  - b. Approving the match schedule and kick-off times for the Final Competition;
  - c. Appointing General Coordinators, Match Commissioners, technical study groups and referee assessors;
  - d. Judging infringements concerning the eligibility of players in the Final Competition;
  - e. Deciding which matches will be subject to doping tests;
  - f. Deciding which laboratories will carry out the doping analyses;

- g. Informing the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee of any breaches of the applicable doping regulations;
- h. Replacing Member Associations that have withdrawn from the Competition;
- i. Settling cases of force majeure;
- j. Dealing with any aspect of the Competition that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations or the CONCACAF Statutes.

#### **IV. HOSTING ASSOCIATION**

1. The CONCACAF Executive Committee has appointed the U.S. Soccer Federation (the “Hosting Association”) as the host of the Final Competition.
2. The Hosting Association is responsible for hosting the Final Competition. It may establish relations and conclude contracts with various entities in order to assist in the delivery of the Final Competition. The Hosting Association remains fully responsible for the delivery of the Final Competition, notwithstanding any such established relations and/or concluded contracts.
3. The Hosting Association and any and all established relations and/or concluded contracts shall be subject to the control of CONCACAF in terms of the delivery of the Final Competition. All CONCACAF decisions are final.
4. The Hosting Association shall discharge CONCACAF from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against CONCACAF and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any act or omission relating to the organization and course of the Competition.
5. The Hosting Association shall ensure that any decision taken by the Gold Cup Committee relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

#### **V. PARTICIPATING MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS**

1. Each Participating Member Association shall be responsible throughout the Competition for:
  - a. The conduct of the members of its delegation (officials and players), and of any person carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the Competition.

- b. Health, travel and accident insurance cover for all the members of its delegation throughout the Competition.
- c. Incidental expenses incurred by its delegation members during the course of their stay in the host countries and for any costs incurred by additional members of the delegation.
- d. Paying for any costs of extending the stay of any member of its delegation throughout the Competition, unless otherwise approved by CONCACAF.
- e. Providing CONCACAF with all the information and/or documentation requested within the stipulated deadlines. Member Associations that fail to provide CONCACAF with all requested information and/or documentation within the stipulated deadlines shall be imposed a fine of \$5,000 USD, except in unforeseen circumstances and cases of force majeure as determined by the Gold Cup Committee. The fine shall be increased by 50% for each repeated offence.
- f. Applying for visas in good time from the diplomatic mission of the host country or countries, as necessary.
- g. Attending press conferences and other official media activities organized by CONCACAF and in accordance with its instructions.
- h. Allowing CONCACAF to use its Association Marks for the promotion of the Competition, and allow the event sponsors to use the marks in a collective form only, for the sole purpose of promoting the Competition. CONCACAF may issue separate guidelines that cover the commercial usage of player images.

2. Member Associations and their players and officials participating in the Competition shall:

Agree to fully respect and comply with:

- a. The Laws of the Game and the principles of Fair Play;
- b. The CONCACAF Statutes and all CONCACAF regulations, rules, codes, protocols, circulars, directives and decisions (including these Regulations);
- c. All decisions and directives of the CONCACAF Executive Committee;



- d. The FIFA Disciplinary Code and, upon its entry into force, the CONCACAF Disciplinary Code;
  - e. The CONCACAF Code of Ethics and the CONCACAF Code of Conduct;
  - f. The FIFA Doping Control Regulations;
  - g. All CONCACAF protocols during matches and fully cooperate in their enforcement (e.g. CONCACAF protocol for racist incidents during matches);
  - h. All CONCACAF anti-match manipulation and anti-racism stipulations;
  - i. All CONCACAF marketing and media requirements, including but not limited to, the Team Media Day in which individual and group photos and video will be taken of each team upon their arrival at the venue of their first match.
- 2.1 Member Associations shall take all necessary actions for their players and officials to be bound by and comply with all the aforementioned statutes, regulations, rules, codes, protocols, circulars, directives, decisions, stipulations and requirements.
  - 2.2 Refrain from any illegal, immoral or unethical behavior that damages, or could damage, the integrity and reputation of football and must cooperate fully with CONCACAF at all times in its efforts to prevent, investigate and sanction such behavior.

## **VI. ENTRIES FOR THE CONCACAF GOLD CUP™**

- 1. “A” national teams of CONCACAF Member Associations have the right to participate in the Competition.
- 2. Notwithstanding the above provision, participation in the competition is both an honor and a responsibility. Therefore, CONCACAF Member Associations (except for the North Zone associations which must participate in every edition) have the obligation to participate in the Competition at least once every four years or shall be automatically suspended from CONCACAF. Upon suspension, a fine of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000 USD) shall be paid to obtain re-admission, unless the CONCACAF Executive Committee accepts that failure to enter was due to force majeure.

## **VII. WITHDRAWALS, UNPLAYED MATCHES AND ABANDONED MATCHES**

1. All Participating Member Associations undertake to play all of their matches until they are eliminated from the Competition.
2. Any Member Association that withdraws from official participation can be replaced by another Member Association. The Gold Cup Committee shall make the relevant decision.
3. Such withdrawal will be subject to the following sanctions, after consideration of the relevant facts, including force majeure, if the withdrawal takes place:
  - a. After the Preliminary Competition but before the start of the Final Competition a fine of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000 USD).
  - b. Anytime during the Final Competition a fine of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000 USD).
  - c. Depending on the circumstances and the decision of the Gold Cup Committee, any Member Association that withdraws at any stage of the Competition may be ordered to reimburse CONCACAF and/or the hosting association for any expenses already incurred as a result of its proposed involvement or non-involvement in the Competition and also pay compensation for any damages or losses arising from its withdrawal.
4. If a team does not report for a match, except in cases of force majeure, or if it refuses to continue to play or leaves the pitch before the end of a match, the team shall be considered as having lost, and as a general rule, shall be excluded from further participation in the Competition, so that none of its matches will be deemed valid.
5. In addition to the above, the team in question shall pay compensation for any damages or losses suffered by CONCACAF, the hosting association and/or the other Participating Member Association(s), and shall forfeit any claim to financial remuneration from CONCACAF. Further measures may be taken by the Gold Cup Committee.
6. The relevant CONCACAF body shall determine the amount of damages for financial loss upon receipt of a substantiated and documented request from the Gold Cup Committee.
7. If the circumstances of withdrawal are sufficiently serious, the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee may also take whatever additional action is appropriate.

8. Furthermore, the Member Association in question may be disqualified from taking part in the next two editions of the Competition. Further measures may be taken by the CONCACAF Executive Committee, including the suspension of the Member Association concerned from any other CONCACAF competitions.
9. No appeals can be lodged against these decisions.
10. If a Participating Member Association withdraws or a match cannot be played or is abandoned as a result of force majeure, the Gold Cup Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.
11. Further to the above provision, in the case of a match being abandoned as a result of force majeure after it has already kicked off, the following principles will apply:
  - a. the match shall recommence at the minute at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full, and with the same score line;
  - b. the match shall recommence with the same players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the match was abandoned;
  - c. no additional substitutes may be added to the list of players on the team sheet;
  - d. the teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the match was abandoned;
  - e. players sent off during the abandoned match cannot be replaced;
  - f. any sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match;
  - g. the kick-off time, date and location shall be decided by the Gold Cup Committee.

## **VIII. LAWS OF THE GAME**

1. All matches will be played under the Laws of the Game as approved by the International Football Association Board (IFAB) and published by FIFA.
2. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the Laws of the Game, the English text shall be authoritative.

## **IX. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

1. The CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee is responsible for enforcing these Regulations. The CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee may apply the FIFA Disciplinary Code until the entree into force of the CONCACAF Disciplinary Code (when it will apply). In particular, the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee may apply the sanctions described in these regulations, the CONCACAF Statutes and all other CONCACAF rules and regulations as well as the FIFA Disciplinary Code (and, upon its enforcement, in the CONCACAF Disciplinary Code).
2. In cases of infringement of these and all applicable regulations or unsporting behavior on the part of the participating national teams, their players and/or officials, or in any kind of incident, the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee shall be empowered to:
  - a. Admonish, sanction, fine, suspend and/or disqualify the national teams, their players and/or officials.
  - b. Take action against any person(s) or Member Association(s) which may violate these Regulations, the Laws of the Game or the rules of Fair Play.
  - c. Prohibit violators from participating in a specific number of the CONCACAF-organized tournaments in which they might otherwise have participated.
3. The CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee may refer to the CONCACAF Executive Committee any matter relating to an infringement of these Regulations as it sees fit whether for further sanction or any other reason.
4. The CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee decisions may be based upon written record or by conducting a hearing.
  - a. When making a decision, the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee may refer to the reports made by the referee, assistant referees, fourth official, match commissioners, referee inspector, general coordinator, technical delegate, security officer, diversity officer and/or any other CONCACAF staff or officials present. Such reports may be used as evidence but only in so far as the disciplinary aspects of the case being dealt with are concerned and shall not affect a referee's decision regarding facts connected with play.
  - b. At its discretion, the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee may convene a personal hearing and will decide any procedures to be followed. Decisions of such hearings shall only be valid if at least three members of the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee are present.

The following decisions of the Disciplinary Committee shall not be subject to appeal:

- a. Cautions and censures imposed on Member Associations, players, officials and other persons.
  - b. Suspensions of up to two matches, or of up to two months, imposed on Member Associations, players, officials or any other persons.
  - c. Fines imposed on Member Associations (not exceeding \$10,000 USD) or on players, officials or any other persons (not exceeding \$3,500 USD).
5. All imposed economic penalties must be paid by the appropriate Member Association no later than sixty (60) days after notification thereof.
6. Cautions and suspensions:
- a. Cautions received during any other competition are not carried over to the Competition.
  - b. Cautions received in the Preliminary Competition are not carried over to the Final Competition.
  - c. A single caution received in the Group Stage of the Final Competition shall not be carried over to the Knock Out stages.
  - d. Two (2) cautions received in different games in the Group Stage or two (2) cautions received in different games in the Knock-Out Stages of the Final Competition shall result in automatic suspension from the next game in the Competition.
  - e. Red card (direct or indirect) suspensions shall be served regardless of the stage of the Competition.
  - f. Unserved suspensions outstanding at the end of a team's participation in the Competition will be carried over to the next official match of the player's National Team per the FIFA Disciplinary Code and, upon its entry into force, the CONCACAF Disciplinary Code.

## **X. APPEALS COMMITTEE**

1. The CONCACAF Appeals Committee shall hear appeals eligible to be lodged against decisions taken by the Disciplinary Committee.
2. The CONCACAF Appeals Committee may suppletorily apply the FIFA Disciplinary Code until the entree into force of the CONCACAF Disciplinary Code (when it will apply subsidiarily). In particular, the CONCACAF Appeals Committee may conduct any appeals procedures in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
3. The CONCACAF Appeals Committee shall reach its decisions on the basis of the documents and other means of evidence contained in the Disciplinary Committee's file. The CONCACAF Appeals Committee may additionally, at its sole discretion, also consider additional evidence, including television and video recordings, which it considers relevant.
4. Decisions pronounced by the Appeals Committee are final and binding.

## **XI. MEDICAL and DOPING CONTROL**

1. In order to protect players' health as well as to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during matches at the competition, each Participating Member Association shall ensure and confirm to CONCACAF that its players and officials undergo a pre-competition medical assessment (PCMA) prior to the start of the competition. The PCMA will include a full medical assessment as well as an echocardiogram and EKG to identify any cardiac abnormality. The medical assessment must be carried out between 270 days and 35 days prior to the start of the competition. CONCACAF will provide a PCMA form to all Participating Member Associations.
2. The duly licensed medical representative of each Participating Member Association (i.e. national team doctor) will be required to sign the PCMA form certifying the accuracy of the results and confirming that the players and officials have passed the pre-competition medical assessment. The medical assessment form shall also include the signatures of the President and General Secretary of the Participating Member Association and shall be received by the CONCACAF General Secretariat at the latest seven (7) business days prior to the start of the competition.
3. Further to the above, each Participating Member Association is required to have a duly licensed medical professional (i.e., a doctor) as part of their official delegation. Such doctor must be fully integrated and familiar with all medical aspects of the delegation and must remain with the delegation throughout the

entire official period of the competition. The Match Officials (the Referees) will refer to such team doctor in all cases as required and necessary.

4. CONCACAF shall not be held liable for any injury sustained by any participating player or official. Equally, CONCACAF shall not be held liable for any incident (including death) linked to any injury or health problem(s) of any participating player or official.
5. As stated in these Regulations, each Participating Member Association shall be responsible throughout the Competition for providing health, travel and accident insurance cover for all the members of its delegation throughout the competition. In addition, and in accordance with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players, the club with which any participating player is registered shall be responsible for player's insurance coverage against illness and accident during the entire period of the player's release.
6. Failure to comply with the aforementioned provision shall be sanctioned by the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee.
7. In regards to non-traumatic loss of consciousness during a game, the referee will assume sudden cardiac failure until proven otherwise. The hand signal is the right hand fist against the chest. Such signal will indicate to the team doctor and the medical emergency team (stretcher team) to immediately institute comprehensive resuscitation that includes the use of a defibrillator (AED) and CPR. It is the responsibility of the organizing association to ensure that there is a properly functioning AED immediately at hand and that there is an ambulance with an access and egress plan.
8. During the match if there is a traumatic head injury and concussion to a player, and the player remains on the field of play, the referee shall stop play for a total of three minutes as injury time. The hand signal is the right fist on the top of the head. Such signal will indicate to the team doctor to enter the field to assess and manage the player. At this time a Sideline Concussion Assessment Test (SCAT) will be administered. At the end of the three minutes, at the discretion of the team doctor, the player may be ready to return to play or immobilized appropriately and transported off the field using the standard protocol.
9. Further to the above, in regards to traumatic head injury and concussion, full return to play after a previous concussion must include no signs or symptoms of the previous head injury as well as an acceptable Sideline Concussion Assessment Test (SCAT) assessment.
10. Doping is the use of certain substances or methods capable of artificially enhancing the physical and/or mental performance of a player, with a view to improving athletic and/or mental performance. If there is medical need as

defined by the player's doctor then a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) application must be filed 21 days prior to competition for chronic conditions and as soon as possible for acute situations. The TUE approval system includes a designated administrative and functional committee that will review applications and certify the exemption as the committee defines.

11. Doping is strictly prohibited. The FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code and all other relevant FIFA as well as CONCACAF Regulations, circulars and directives shall apply to all CONCACAF competitions.
12. Every player may be subject to in-competition testing at the matches in which he competes and to out-of-competition testing at any time and place. Furthermore, reference is made to the FIFA Anti-Doping Control Regulations and the list of prohibited substances and methods per the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
13. If, in accordance with the FIFA Anti-Doping Control Regulations, a player tests positive for the use of banned substances, the player shall be immediately declared ineligible from further participation in the competition and shall be subject to further sanctions from the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee.

## **XII. PROTESTS**

1. Protests, subject to the following provisions, are objections of any kind connected with matches of the Competition.
2. Protests against the eligibility of players chosen to take part in the Competition shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner or General Coordinator not later than 24 hours before the match in question. Such protests must be accompanied by a check in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500 USD) payable to CONCACAF.
3. All other protests shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner or the CONCACAF General Coordinator at the match not later than two hours after the game and followed up immediately with a written report, including the original protest, to be sent to the CONCACAF General Secretariat by scan and e-mail or fax (such contact information to be provided in due course).
4. Protests against any incidents that occur during a match shall be directed to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has resumed. The protest shall be confirmed in writing to the Match Commissioner or the CONCACAF General Coordinator at the match not later than two hours after the match in question (such contact information to be



provided in due course).

5. Protests against the state of the pitch, the markings, the accessory equipment (goals, etc.) or the football shall be made in writing to the Referee before the start of the match. If the turf becomes unplayable during the match, the captain of the team concerned shall immediately inform the Referee in the presence of the opposing team's captain.
6. No protests may be lodged against the referee's decisions on points of fact connected with play, such decisions being final.
7. Member Associations may not bring disputes with CONCACAF before a Court of Justice. They shall undertake to submit any such disputes without reservation to the jurisdiction of the competent authority of CONCACAF and FIFA.
8. If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, a fine may be imposed.
9. The expenses, which arise from a protest, shall be charged by CONCACAF, either wholly or in part, to the losing party.
10. Once the winning team of the Competition has been proclaimed, any protest or complaint about the sports procedure followed during the competition shall be disregarded.

### **XIII. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS**

1. Marketing, radio, television promotion and advertising rights for the Competition are fully vested with CONCACAF.
2. Concessions for souvenir sales, official programs and others of a similar nature for the Competition are fully vested with CONCACAF.
3. Rights for the merchandising of the event, both on and off site, for the Competition, are exclusively with CONCACAF.
4. Permission to make technical films/tapes, exclusively reserved for the use of a participating Member Association concerned, must be obtained from the CONCACAF General Secretariat.
5. Any use of the event trademarks and logos must first receive the approval of CONCACAF.

6. CONCACAF shall be granted the right by each association to use its marks, logos, player images and emblems for the sole purpose of promoting the competition.
7. The Participating Teams shall agree, as a condition of their participation that:
  - a. The terms the “CONCACAF Gold Cup™”, “Gold Cup”, or “Copa Oro” commonly used to identify the Gold Cup of CONCACAF, and their equivalent, abbreviated or as translated into other languages, may only be used by such teams in a sporting context with no commercial implications. CONCACAF owns the copyright for all these terms.
  - b. They shall agree to abide by any advertising provisions issued by CONCACAF.
  - c. They shall abide by the Commercial Guidelines and/or the Commercial Regulations as issued by CONCACAF.
8. In addition to the above, each participant in the competition, including players, coaches, team officials, referees and officials, agree to be filmed, televised, photographed, identified and otherwise recorded during the competition under conditions and for the purposes now or hereinafter authorized by CONCACAF in relation to the promotion of the Competition, CONCACAF and the sport of football. Each participant further agrees to comply with and be bound by the CONCACAF Statutes, rules and regulations.

## FINAL COMPETITION

### **XIV. TEAMS**

- I. The CONCACAF Executive Committee determines the number of teams to take part in the Competition. The number of teams taking part in the 2015 CONCACAF Gold Cup™ has been fixed at 12, to be allocated as follows:

Caribbean Football Union (CFU)	4.5 teams*
North Zone (Canadá, México, USA)	3 teams
Central American Football Union (UNCAF)	4.5 teams*

\*Note that the 5<sup>th</sup> place teams from the finals of the respective qualifying championships, for both CFU and UNCAF, will playoff for the final 12<sup>th</sup> spot in a home and away format. Time and place to be determined in due course by the CONCACAF Executive Committee.

If it becomes necessary, the FIFA tie breaking procedure (away goal rule) will apply.

1. Each team taking part in the Competition must arrive and officially present itself 2 days before its first match.
2. Each team must attend a Team Arrival Meeting (TAM) upon arrival at the Competition. The schedule and agenda for such Team Arrival Meeting will be communicated in due course.
3. Each team must attend a Match Coordination Meeting (MCM) on the day before each match. Such meetings are mandatory and must be attended by both teams' representatives. The schedule and agenda for each Match Coordination Meeting will be communicated in due course.

## **XV. TEAM ENTRY**

### **ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS AND TEAM REGISTRATION**

- a. Each participating Member Association shall select its national representative team from the best players who are nationals of its country and under its jurisdiction, and are eligible for selection in accordance with the provisions of the applicable FIFA Regulations.
- b. A Member Association which has entered the Competition shall not refer (directly or indirectly) to its selection as an inferior selection publicly or in the print and/or electronic media. A team, which fails to heed this requirement, shall (at a minimum) automatically forfeit part or all of its prize money as determined by the CONCACAF Executive Committee.
- c. A Member Association participating in the Competition shall ensure, as a condition of its participation, that every member of its official delegation (officials and players) be included in the team's Official Delegation List and complete an entry form to be specified by CONCACAF.
- d. Each player must be in possession of a legal individual passport containing an up-to-date photograph and giving full particulars on the date of birth (day, month and year) of the player. If a player is not in possession of a legal individual passport, he shall not be allowed to participate in the Competition.
- e. Upon arrival at the first venue of the Competition each Member Association's head of delegation or team administrator shall immediately submit the individual passports of its players for verification to the designated representative of CONCACAF.

- f. The Member Associations shall be responsible for fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the applicable regulations

### **PROVISIONAL LIST OF PLAYERS**

Participating Member Associations must provide (on the official CONCACAF form) their “List of Players” to the office of the CONCACAF General Secretariat, no later than 30 days prior to the kick-off of the opening match of the Competition. This list is binding and shall contain the names of 35 players. The list of players shall at the minimum contain the following for each player:

- the full last name,
- all first names,
- popular name,
- place and date of birth,
- passport number and its expiration date,
- name and country of the club,
- height, weight,
- the number of international caps (A matches),
- and the number of international goals scored (A matches)

The list of players shall be published by the CONCACAF General Secretariat and will be made public.

### **TEAM DELEGATIONS AND FINAL ROSTER**

Each participating Member Association shall submit to the CONCACAF General Secretariat its Final Delegation list of up to 32 persons, which must include 23 players (three of whom shall be goalkeepers), no later than 10 business days prior to the opening match of the competition. The Final List of Players must come from the Provisional List of Players. The Final list of Players shall be published by the CONCACAF General Secretariat and will be made public.

### **INJURED PLAYERS**

A listed player may only be replaced in the event of serious injury up until 24 hours before his team’s first match, after CONCACAF has received a detailed medical assessment in English and only after acceptance by the CONCACAF Sports Medical Committee and/or the Gold Cup Committee that the injury is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the Competition. The Member Association shall then immediately nominate the substitute and inform CONCACAF accordingly. The substitute shall be selected from the provisional list of 35 players. Any replacement at this stage will not compromise

the right of the team to replace 6 players at the end of the group phase as described below. Any additional cost associated with approved player replacement will be at the expense of the team.

### **PENALTIES FOR LATE SUBMISSION OF ROSTER**

In accordance with the deadlines set out above, any team that fails to meet the stipulated deadlines will be subject to a fine of \$10,000 USD and which shall be payable before the opening match of the Competition.

### **AMENDMENT OF THE 23 PLAYER ROSTER**

- a. Teams qualifying for the Quarterfinal of the Final Competition will be permitted to amend the 23 player roster and replace up to 6 players with 6 new players. Such replacements must be announced officially within 24 hours following completion of their final group stage match.
- b. The new players must be selected from the Provisional List of Players. Only these players will (except in the case of force majeure recognized by the Gold Cup Committee) be permitted to compete in the knockout stages of the Competition.
- c. The amended list shall be published by the CONCACAF General Secretariat before the start of the Quarterfinal matches. Any additional costs associated with the change of player roster will be at the expense of the participating Member Association concerned.

## **XVI. REFEREEING**

1. The referees, assistant referees, fourth officials and reserve assistant referees (hereinafter referred to collectively as match officials) shall be appointed for each match by the CONCACAF Referees Committee. They shall be selected from the FIFA International Refereeing list in force and shall be neutral. The decisions of the CONCACAF Referees Committee are final and not subject to appeal.
2. If the referee is prevented from carrying out his duties, such referee shall be replaced by the fourth official. If one of the assistant referees is prevented from carrying out his duties, such assistant referee shall be replaced by the reserve assistant referee.
3. The match officials shall receive the official refereeing kit and equipment from CONCACAF. They shall wear and use only this kit on match days.

4. The match officials shall be given the opportunity to use training facilities.
5. After each match the referee shall complete the official CONCACAF report forms and hand it over immediately after the match to the Match Commissioner or the CONCACAF General Coordinator at the venue as directed.
6. On the report form, the referee shall note, along with all the match results, all incidents before, during, and after the match in as much detail as possible, such as:
  - a. Misconduct of players and team officials, leading to caution or expulsion.
  - b. Unsporting behavior of officials and/or any person acting on behalf of the Member Association at a match.
  - c. Unsporting behavior of any supporters.
  - d. Any other incidents.

## **XVII. DURATION, EXTRA TIME, PENALTY KICKS**

1. Each match shall last 90 minutes, comprising two periods of 45 minutes with an interval of 15 minutes in between.
2. In the group stage, if the score is tied at the end of regulation time, the result will stand as a tie.
3. In the knockout stages, if the score is tied at the end of regulation time, extra time will be played.
4. If, in accordance with the provisions of these regulations, extra time must be played as the result of a draw at the end of normal playing time, it shall always consist of two periods of 15 minutes each, with an interval of 5 minutes at the end of normal playing time, but not between the two periods of extra time.
5. Should one team score more goals than the other in the extra time, it shall be declared the winner.
6. If the teams are still tied at the end of extra time, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedure laid down by the International Football Association Board (IFAB) and published by FIFA.
7. Clocks in the stadium showing the amount of time played may run during the match, provided that they are stopped at the end of normal playing time in each

half, i.e., after 45 and 90 minutes respectively. This stipulation shall also apply in the event of extra time being played (i.e., 15 minutes of each half).

8. At the end of the two periods of normal playing time (45 and 90 minutes), the referee shall indicate to the fourth official, orally or by gesturing with his hands, the number of minutes that he has decided to allow for time lost. This applies also to the two periods of 15 minutes of extra time. Each allowance for lost time shall be shown on the panels or electronic display boards of the fourth official and announced by the public address announcer to those in attendance.

## **XVIII. FIELD OF PLAY, STADIUMS, TRAINING SITES**

1. The Gold Cup Committee shall guarantee that the fields of play chosen for the Competition comply with standards of safety and security required by FIFA for international matches.
2. The fields of play, accessory equipment and all facilities for each match of the Competition shall be in optimum condition and comply with the Laws of the Game and all other relevant regulations.
3. Unless otherwise approved by CONCACAF, the pitch shall have the following dimensions: length 105m (approximately 114yd 2.5ft), width 68m (approximately 74yd 1ft). In addition, the total surface area shall have sufficient space for warm-up and pitch-side photographer positions.
4. Matches played at night may be played only at venues with floodlighting installations that ensure that the whole pitch is evenly lit according to CONCACAF specifications. An emergency independent power system shall also be available in each stadium which, in the event of a power failure, guarantees at least two-thirds of the CONCACAF-specified intensity of light for the whole pitch and ensures emergency lighting in the whole stadium.
5. Weather and pitch conditions permitting, teams that are due to play a match in a stadium in which they have not previously played will be entitled to one 45-minute training session in that stadium on the day before the match. The times for such sessions will be set by CONCACAF and teams have to respect such times accordingly.
6. The teams that qualify for the final will be entitled to a 45-minute training session in the stadium, even if they have already played a match in that stadium, subject to final approval by CONCACAF depending on weather conditions, pitch quality and other factors.

7. If the pitch is not in good condition or the training session would negatively affect the state of the pitch, CONCACAF may shorten or cancel the training session and direct the teams only to inspect the pitch wearing training shoes.
8. The teams will be entitled to warm up on the field of play before the match for a maximum of 30 minutes, weather permitting and other conditions permitting.
9. Each stadium shall have sufficient space behind the goals to allow the players to warm up during the matches. A maximum of six (6) players shall warm up at the same time (with a maximum of two (2) officials). Only the goalkeeper may warm up with a ball. If there is not sufficient space behind the goals, both teams shall warm up in the designated area beside the substitute bench of Team B, behind assistant referee no. 1. In this case, only a maximum of three (3) players per team may warm up at the same time, no balls are permitted.
10. In principle, each team will be provided with a training site for their exclusive use in each venue according to the match schedule. The training sites shall be made available in each venue for the exclusive use of the teams at least 3 days before each match and until one day after each match in the respective venue, according to the match schedule.
11. The training sites shall be situated within a maximum 20-minute bus drive from the team hotel.
12. Unless otherwise approved by CONCACAF, all training site pitches shall have the following dimensions: length 105m (approximately 114yd 2.5ft), width 68m (approximately 74yd 1ft). The training sites shall have the same surface as the match pitches and be in perfect condition, freshly mowed and fully marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
13. Each training site shall have corresponding support personnel and suitable training site equipment, including but not limited to cones and movable goals. Each training site shall be equipped with at least one dressing room with lockers, showers and toilets.
14. As from 3 days prior to each match of the Competition and up to their elimination, the Participating Member Associations shall use only those training sites which have been officially designated for training by CONCACAF.



## **XIX. ACCREDITATION**

1. CONCACAF shall issue each official Team Delegation Member with an official accreditation bearing an official photograph.
2. Only those players who are in possession of such an accreditation are entitled to play the matches of the Final Competition. The accreditation should always be available. In accordance with applicable provisions in these Regulations, accreditation for replaced players shall be returned to CONCACAF.
3. The participating Member Associations shall ensure that all accreditation data required by CONCACAF is submitted by the deadline stipulated by CONCACAF. Further details shall be outlined in the corresponding CONCACAF circular.

## **XX. START LIST**

1. All 23 players shall be named on the start list for each match (11 selected players and 12 substitutes). Up to a maximum of three of the substitutes may take the place of the selected players at any time during the match.
2. The numbers on the players' shirts must correspond to the numbers indicated on the start list. The start list shall be signed by the head coach.
3. Each team is responsible for arriving at the stadium at the latest 90 minutes before the kick-off of the respective match and for providing the completed start list to the CONCACAF General Coordinator upon such arrival.
4. Each team is responsible for ensuring that the start list is completed properly and submitted on time, and that only the selected players start the match. In the case of any discrepancies, the matter will be submitted to the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee.
5. If any of the 11 players submitted on the start list are not able to begin the match due to sudden injury or illness, they may be replaced by any of the eligible substitutes as long as the CONCACAF General Coordinator is officially informed prior to kick-off. Within 24 hours, the team concerned must also provide CONCACAF with a medical report issued by the team doctor responsible (in one of the three official languages of CONCACAF).
6. Further to the above, any injured or ill player who is removed from the start list will no longer be eligible to take part in the match, and thus cannot be selected as a substitute player at any time during the game. Such a change to the start list will not reduce the number of official substitutions that may be made by a team

during the match. In accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of the Game, up to a maximum of three substitutions may still be made.

7. Although no longer eligible to play as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the start list may be seated on the substitutes' bench, and if so, would then also be eligible for doping control selection.
8. Only the players who were identified on the official start list submitted to the CONCACAF General Coordinator, or were confirmed as a warm-up injury/illness replacement player, may start the match. In the case of any discrepancies of players on the pitch at the beginning of a match, the matter will be submitted to the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee for a decision.

### **SUBSTITUTES' BENCH**

9. No more than 21 people (9 officials and 12 substitutes) shall be allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench. The names of these officials must be indicated on the "Officials on the Substitutes' Bench" form to be provided to the CONCACAF General Coordinator. A suspended player or official will not be allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench.

## **XXI. TEAM EQUIPMENT**

1. The Participating Member Associations shall comply with the FIFA Equipment Regulations in force. The display of political, religious, or personal messages or slogans in any language or form by players and officials on their playing or team kits, equipment (including kit bags, beverage containers, medical bags, etc.) or body is prohibited. The similar display of commercial messages and slogans in any language or form by players and officials is not allowed at any official activity organized by CONCACAF (including in the stadiums for official matches and training sessions, as well as during official media conferences and mixed-zone activities). Any violations shall be dealt with by the CONCACAF Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code and, upon its entry into force, with the CONCACAF Disciplinary Code.

### **TEAM COLORS**

2. Each team shall inform CONCACAF of two different and contrasting colors (one predominately dark and one predominately light) for its official and reserve team kits (shirt, shorts and socks). In addition, each team shall select three contrasting colors for the goalkeepers. These three goalkeeper kits must be distinctly different and contrasting from each other as well as different and contrasting from the official and reserve team kits. This information shall be sent

to CONCACAF on the team color form. Only these colors may be worn at the matches.

3. CONCACAF will inform the teams of the colors that they shall wear for each match by means of a circular letter and/or at the match coordination meetings.

### **TEAM KIT APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

4. Each participating Member Association shall provide CONCACAF with exact samples, including names and numbers, of the following equipment:
  - i. official and reserve kits (two sets of shirts, shorts, socks);
  - ii. three sets of the goalkeeper's kit (shirts, shorts, socks);
  - iii. goalkeeper's gloves and caps;
  - iv. All equipment that will be worn by the substitute players and the technical staff sitting on the bench during the matches.

The approval procedure for all such kits and the applicable deadlines will be communicated via a circular letter.

5. During the Competition, all equipment (kits, gloves, bags, medical equipment, etc.) that could be on display in the stadiums, the training sites, the hotels or during transfers to, from or within the host country must be approved by CONCACAF.

### **PLAYERS' NAMES AND NUMBERS**

6. Throughout the Competition, each player shall wear the number assigned to him on the final list. Only the numbers 1 to 23 may be allocated to these players, with number 1 being reserved exclusively for one of the goalkeepers. Such number shall be displayed on the front and back of his shirt and on his shorts in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations. The colors of the numbers must contrast clearly with the main color of the shirts and shorts (light or dark or vice versa) and be legible from a distance for spectators in the stadium and television viewers in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations.

For those cases in which 6 replacement players are brought in for the knockout stages, such new players will carry the numbers 24 through 29 respectively as applicable.

7. The player's last name or popular name (or abbreviation) shall be affixed above the number on the back of the shirt and shall be clearly legible in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations.

### **GOALKEEPERS' SHIRTS WITHOUT NAME AND NUMBER**

8. In addition to all of the above (and as the only exception), each team shall supply a set of goalkeeper shirts without names or numbers. These shirts will only be used in those special circumstances in which an outfield player must take the position of goalkeeper during a match. This extra set of goalkeeper shirts must be provided in the same three colors as the regular goalkeeper shirts.

### **TEAM KIT ON MATCH DAYS**

9. The official and reserve team kits and all goalkeeper kits (including the goalkeeper shirts without names and numbers) shall be taken to every match.

### **PLAYERS' SLEEVE BADGES**

10. CONCACAF shall supply a sufficient number of players' sleeve badges with the official competition logo which shall be affixed on the right-hand sleeve of each shirt. A different CONCACAF campaign logo may be affixed on the left-hand sleeve. CONCACAF will issue a circular letter to the Participating Member Associations outlining the instructions for use of the players' sleeve badges.

### **FOOTBALLS**

11. The footballs used in the Competition shall be selected and exclusively supplied by CONCACAF. The footballs shall conform to the provisions of the Laws of the Game and the FIFA Equipment Regulations. They shall bear one of the following three designations: the official "FIFA APPROVED" logo, the official "FIFA INSPECTED" logo or the "INTERNATIONAL MATCHBALL STANDARD" reference.
12. Each team will receive twenty (20) training balls from CONCACAF upon arrival in their first venue. Only these balls delivered by CONCACAF may be used for training and warm-up sessions in the official stadiums and at the official training sites.

### **WARM-UP BIBS**

13. Only warm-up bibs provided by CONCACAF may be used during official training sessions held at the stadium and for the warm-up of players during the match.

## OTHER EQUIPMENT

14. The use of any communication equipment and/or systems between and/or amongst players and/or technical staff is not permitted. CONCACAF will provide more information by means of a circular letter.
15. Smoking is not permitted in the competition areas such as the dressing rooms, the tunnel areas, the technical areas, and the pitch perimeter areas.

## XXII. FLAGS AND ANTHEMS

1. During the Competition, the FIFA and CONCACAF flags, the flag of the host country, and the flags of the competing associations shall be flown inside the stadium at every match providing sufficient flag poles are available. The FIFA Fair Play flag shall also be hoisted or draped in the stadium, clearly visible from the VIP box.
2. The CONCACAF anthem shall be played while the teams are entering the field of play, followed by the national anthems of the two teams.

## XXIII. PROTOCOL

For each match, in the spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship, two officials from each team will join the CONCACAF President (or his representative) in the VIP tribune.

CONCACAF shall issue further guidelines for the Competition in due course.

## XXIV. FINAL COMPETITION FORMAT

1. The Gold Cup Committee shall divide the 12 teams of the Competition into three groups of four teams each (or such groups as they consider necessary for the efficient conduct of the competition and set the schedule thereof) as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C
A1	B1	C1
A2	B2	C2
A3	B3	C3
A4	B4	C4

The matches in the groups shall be played according to the league system, each team playing one match against each of the other teams in the same group, with three points for a win, one point for a draw, and none for a defeat.

2. The top two teams from each of the three groups and the two best third-place teams shall qualify for the Quarterfinals.
3. The ranking of each team in each group will be determined as follows:
  - a. Greatest number of points obtained in group matches
  - b. Goal difference in all group matches
  - c. Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches
  - d. Greatest number of points obtained in group matches between the teams concerned;
  - e. Drawing of lots by the Gold Cup Committee.
4. Ranking for the two best third place teams will be determined as follows:
  - a. Greatest number of points obtained in group matches;
  - b. Goal difference in all group matches;
  - c. Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;
  - d. Drawing of lots by the Gold Cup Committee.

5. The 8 teams that qualify from the group stage will contest the quarterfinals as follows:

Winner A vs. Best Third B / Third C (1A vs. 3B/3C)	=	Winner 1
Winner B vs. Runner-up A (1B vs 2A)	=	Winner 2
Winner C vs. Best Third A / Third B (or 1C vs. 3A/3B)	=	Winner 3
Second C vs. Second B (2C vs 2B)	=	Winner 4

6. The 4 teams that qualify from the Quarterfinals will contest the Semifinals as follows:

Winner 1 vs. Winner 2 = SF1  
Winner 3 vs. Winner 4 = SF2

7. The loser of SF1 will play against the loser of SF2 for third place.
8. The winner of SF1 will play against the winner of SF2 for the Final.
9. If a quarterfinal, semifinal, third place match or the final match is tied at the end of the regulation 90 minutes, then extra time is required. The procedure outlined in these Regulations including extra time and possible kicks from the penalty mark shall be used to determine a winner.

## **XXV. FRIENDLY (INTERNATIONAL) MATCHES**

1. Matches between two qualified teams within a period of 3 months prior to the Final Competition are subject to authorization by CONCACAF. A request for permission must be submitted to the CONCACAF General Secretariat in advance by the Member Associations concerned with an indication of the venue and date of the planned match, the name of the opposing team and the financial arrangements. In those cases where such special permission is granted, financial conditions and provisions (as per FIFA and CONCACAF) with respect to international matches will apply.
2. Unless the Gold Cup Committee gives special permission, the teams participating in the Final Competition shall not have the right to play friendly and/or official matches in the venues and/or markets of the Final Competition in the period commencing 60 days before the start and ending one month after the conclusion of the Final Competition. In those cases where such special permission is granted, financial conditions and provisions (as per FIFA and CONCACAF) with respect to international matches will apply.
3. Once the groupings for the Final Competition have been announced, teams in the same group may not play a friendly match in any of the venues of the Final Competition.
4. In all cases, the Member Associations concerned shall be responsible for all consequences which may result from failure to observe the regulations mentioned above.

## **XXVI. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

1. The participating Member Association shall be responsible for and bear the costs of the following:
  - a. Adequate insurance to cover their Team Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on their behalf against all risk, including but not limited to injury, accident, disease, and travel in consideration of the applicable FIFA rules or regulations on the release of players to association teams. Proof of insurance must be submitted to the CONCACAF General Secretariat 15 days before the first match of the Competition.
  - b. Board and lodging of the Competition in excess of the amounts paid by CONCACAF, including rental of meeting rooms and audio/visual technical equipment.

- c. Cost associated with additional members of the association's delegation (in excess of 32 people).
2. CONCACAF shall bear the costs of the following:
    - a. Economy class return air tickets for 32 persons from each participating Member Association between the main airport of the participating association and the main airport of the city of the host association where the first match of each team is scheduled. The return shall be from the main airport of the team's last match of the Competition.
    - b. The CONCACAF General Secretariat may, as an alternative for logistical reasons, allocate a travel grant to the participating associations who shall then be responsible for organizing the air tickets for all members of their respective delegations in accordance with the arrival and departure protocol (i.e., 2 days before the teams' first match and one night after the teams' last match).
    - c. All domestic air and ground transportation for official competition functions, including to and from the airport, for matches, training sessions, and match coordination meetings;
    - d. Board and lodging for 32 persons from each participating Member Association. Only the officially designated hotels may be used by the team delegations during the competition;
    - e. Prize money for the participating Member Associations, the amounts of which shall be determined by the CONCACAF Executive Committee;
    - f. Economy air travel, first class hotel and board, and approved per diem for the match officials;
    - g. Approved traveling and daily expenses of the CONCACAF Executive Committee and designated members of other committees and technical or other staff (as determined by the CONCACAF General Secretariat).
  3. The following number of match tickets shall automatically be reserved for each official delegation:



- a. For the matches played by the participating teams: 6 complimentary tickets of the highest category (in most cases VIP) and 50 complimentary seats of the next highest category (in most cases Cat 1), as well as at least 100 purchasable tickets of this same next highest category (in most cases Cat 1, as available).
- b. The purchasable tickets must be collected and paid for at least ten days prior to the date of the first match of the Competition.
- c. For the participants in Quarterfinals, Semifinals and the Final, the number of purchasable tickets to be reserved shall be fixed by the CONCACAF Executive Committee. They must be collected and paid for the day following the one when the team concerned is qualified for one of these matches.
- d. The Member Associations may return a maximum of 10% of the tickets originally requested. However, the returned tickets must be in the hands of CONCACAF 14 days before the match concerned at the latest. Otherwise they will be considered sold.
- e. The number of tickets for the Participating Member Associations in the Semifinals and the Final Match shall in each case be fixed by the CONCACAF Executive Committee.

## **XXVII. TROPHY, AWARDS AND MEDALS**

1. A Certificate of Participation will be provided to all players and officials participating in the Final Competition.
2. CONCACAF will present the winning national team with the Gold Cup trophy.
3. The champion shall receive 32 gold medals, the runner up 32 silver medals and the third place team 32 bronze medals.
4. Special awards will be presented to:
  - a. **The Most Valuable Player (Golden Ball)**  
The Golden Ball will be awarded to the best player in the Final Competition on the basis of a ranking compiled by the CONCACAF Technical Study Group.
  - b. **The Top Scorer (Golden Boot)**  
The Golden Boot will be awarded to the player who scores the most goals in the Final Competition. If two or more players score

the same number of goals, the number of assists (as determined by members of the CONCACAF Technical Study Group) will be decisive.

If two or more players are still equal after taking into account the number of assists, the total minutes played in the Final Competition will be taken into account, with the player playing fewer minutes ranked first.

- c. The Best Goalkeeper (Golden Glove)  
The Golden Glove will be awarded to the best goalkeeper in the Final Competition on the basis of a ranking compiled by the CONCACAF Technical Study Group.
  - d. The team with the best Fair Play performance (Fair Play Award).  
The Fair Play Award shall be awarded to the team, which has shown the best sporting spirit and fair play during the tournament.
5. There will be no official awards other than those listed above, unless otherwise decided by the CONCACAF Gold Cup™ Committee.
  6. The players and teams of Member Associations who take part in CONCACAF's Competitions cannot under any circumstances receive prizes and/or awards other than those listed above without the expressed authorization of CONCACAF, except those originating from their Associations.

## FINAL PROVISIONS

### **XXVIII. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

The Gold Cup Committee shall, in conjunction with the Hosting Association, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances that may arise in the host country. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

### **XXIX. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR**

Any matters not provided for in these Regulations and any cases of force majeure shall be decided by the Gold Cup Committee. All decisions shall be final and binding and not subject to appeal.

### **XXX. LANGUAGES**

In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English, French or Spanish texts of these Regulations, the English text shall be authoritative.

### **XXXI. COPYRIGHT**

The copyright of the match schedule drawn up in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations is the property of CONCACAF.

### **XXXII. NO WAIVER**

Any waiver by CONCACAF of any breach of these Regulations (including of any document referred to in these Regulations) will not operate as, or be construed to be, a waiver of any other breach of such provision or of any breach of any other provision or a waiver of any right arising out of these Regulations or any other document. Any such waiver shall only be valid if given in writing. Failure by CONCACAF to insist upon strict adherence to any provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations, on one or more occasions will not be considered to be a waiver of, or deprive CONCACAF of the right to subsequently insist upon strict adherence to that provision or any other provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations.

### **XXXIII. ENFORCEMENT**

These Regulations were approved by the CONCACAF Executive Committee on December 11, 2014 and came into force immediately thereafter.

For the CONCACAF Executive Committee:

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 CONCACAF President

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 CONCACAF General Secretary