

FCBARCELONA Penyes

REGULATIONS OF FC BARCELONA SUPPORTERS CLUBS

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PREAMBLE

Throughout history, the FC BARCELONA penyes (supporters clubs) have played a crucial role in disseminating and promoting the Barcelona sentiment. Since the 1940s and up until the present-day, this kind of associations have steadily increased in number and their support towards FC BARCELONA has never faltered.

Today, the Club considers them to be even more necessary and important in the promotion of its historical values, namely: ethics, public spirit, social inclusion, tolerance, sportsmanship, fair play, solidarity, democracy, Catalan identity, universality, and other values which capture the essence of FC BARCELONA's commitment to society.

The emergence and development of new technologies have reduced the distances between people and have enabled FC BARCELONA fans from around the world to communicate immediately with one another.

The steady increase of the number of such associations has therefore made it necessary to draw up a series of standards to help establish a relationship between the Club and its supporters clubs as efficiently as possible.

These regulations, with respect to the spirit of previous standards, update and adjust the relationships between FC BARCELONA and its supporters clubs in a bid to adapt them to contemporary times.

I. GENERAL CONCEPTS

Article 1: DEFINITIONS

1. FC BARCELONA supporters clubs are sovereign and independent associations, incorporated in accordance with the terms stipulated in Article 22 of the Spanish Constitution, and enforced through the following: its own Articles of Association; the Catalan Associations Act 7/1997, of 18 June; Book Three of the Civil Code of Catalonia relating to legal persons, Act 4/2008, of 24 April, or alternatively, legislation relating to each autonomous community; the Right of Association Act 1/2002, of 22 March; or legislation that replaces any of the aforementioned acts; or national country regulations, in the case of foreign associations. They aim to promote, maintain and improve the

representativeness and public awareness of FC BARCELONA around the world, as well as to foster the Club's historical values and fraternity among members and supporters, by backing the Club's objectives.

2. Club supporters are all natural persons who are members of an FC BARCELONA supporters club, who voluntarily comply with the Articles of Association of their supporters club and these regulations, according to the rights and duties granted by these standards and corresponding legislation, and who are committed to the objectives of their supporters club and the Club. The Club acknowledges club supporters by providing a membership card to all individuals identified by the supporters club as being associated to its organisation. According to the annually determined conditions, this card will allow them to access information and promotions put in place by the Club or by the supporters club movement for their benefit.

Article 2: CONNECTIONS

- 1. The FC BARCELONA Articles of Association, passed by the Ordinary General Assembly on 19 August 2009, indicate in Article 15: "Special consideration shall be provided by the Club to members of associations that support FC BARCELONA objectives, taking into account their significant contribution to raising awareness of the Club, while completely respecting the independence of these associations". Therefore, once an FC BARCELONA supporters club has been incorporated in accordance with current regulations and recognised by the Board of Directors, it will hold the rights and obligations inherent to such status, as regards its involvement in the Club's social activities, as the Club may host an annual Supporters Club Conference made up of members thereof. The supporters clubs' rights and obligations as regards their connection to FC BARCELONA shall be indicated in these supporters club regulations, to be passed by the Board of Directors.
- 2. Under no circumstances may FC BARCELONA be involved in the creation of a new official supporters club, nor in the operations and/or dissolution of any supporters clubs, notwithstanding the removal of the condition of an official supporters club for the cases established under Article 10 of these regulations. At all times, it will provide advice regarding supporters club incorporation and registration procedures in the relevant associations registry and in the

FC BARCELONA's Supporters Club Registry. It will endeavour to provide the necessary forms and information, wherever possible.

- 3. Members of the Club's commissions may not apply for a position in an official supporters club, unless subsequently appointed by the Club to become a member of a commission.
- 4. To the extent possible, supporters clubs shall undertake to take part in all activities linked to FC BARCELONA which are carried out in their region, without these entailing any obligations whatsoever.

Article 3: REQUIREMENTS TO FORM A SUPPORTERS CLUB

The following are essential requirements to appoint and maintain a supporters club:

- a) The supporters club president must be a member or holder of a commitment card of FC BARCELONA from the time of application. If the condition of member or holder of a commitment card of FC BARCELONA is lost for any reason, including death, the supporters club shall have a period of three months to appoint a new president, who must comply with the same requirements.
- b) Supporters clubs domiciled in Catalonia must have at least five supporters club members who are members or holders of the commitment card of FC BARCELONA. If, subsequently, the number of members or commitment card holders decreases to less than the minimum of five, the supporters club shall have a period of three months to include the necessary club supporters in order to continue to meet this requirement.
- c) The supporters club must include at least the members indicated in the following table, according to the number of inhabitants registered in the municipality or local community in which the new supporters club shall be incorporated:

| INHABITANTS | MINIMUM MEMBERS | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| | CATALONIA | REST OF SPAIN / WORLD |
| | | |
| Up to 2,000 | 40 | 25 |
| 2,001 to 5,000 | 60 | 45 |
| 5,001 to 25,000 | 75 | 60 |
| More than 25,000 | 85 | 70 |

Exceptionally, and provided that a favourable report by the area delegate is available justifying the reason for which a supporters club does not meet this requirement, and after approval from the Supporters Club Advisory Council, the Board of Directors may consider these reports and, where applicable, allow a supporters club to be incorporated which does not meet the indicated member minimum.

- d) Two thirds of the board of director members must be registered or regularly reside in the city or town in which the supporters club is located.
- e) The supporters club must have a head office, be this rented, on a concessionary basis or owned premises. Under no circumstances may this be a private dwelling. However, it may be an apartment or premises used to carry out activities which differ from those of the dwelling. If the head office is located in a bar, restaurant, shop or premises open to the public, etc., the owner or holder of the business or activity may not be the president or a member of the supporters club board of directors under any circumstances. The Club may decide not to allow an official supporters club to become established when the proposed address, due to the business being carried out, goes against the values supported by the Club.
- f) Each supporters club must have its own head office and address, which cannot be shared with another supporters club. A post office box may not be used as a supporters club head office, notwithstanding the fact that a supporters club may have a post office box for the purposes of receiving mail.
- g) In municipalities or local communities with less than 25000 people, only one supporters club is allowed. In those with over 25000 inhabitants, there must be a distance of at least 1,000 m (1 km) between clubs. Under all circumstances, the delegate must agree to the creation of a supporters club.

- h) The supporters club must appoint a spokesperson to communicate with the Club. This person must be a member of the supporters club board of directors.
- i) The name and logos must comply with the terms stipulated in Article 4 of these regulations.

Article 4: APPLICATION AND NAMING

- 1. Before establishing a supporters club, the parties concerned must complete and submit an application to the Supporters Club Department, indicating the following details:
 - Name or company name of the supporters club.
 - Address.
 - Number of inhabitants in the town in which the supporters club is located.
 - Details of the contact person.

Within a maximum period of 15 days, the Club shall ensure that the application meets the requirements stipulated under Article 3, shall indicate in writing that the new supporters club may be established, and shall inform the party concerned of the subsequent procedures to follow.

2. The name of the supporters club must refer to FC BARCELONA and preferably to the region in which its activities will be carried out. To avoid confusion, identical or similar names that could be mistaken for existing supporters clubs shall not be permitted.

Names, company names, or logos of the supporters clubs that go against the inherent values of the Club are not accepted: public spirit, social inclusion, sportsmanship, solidarity, tolerance, ethics, democracy, Catalan identity, universality, fair play, and other values which capture the essence of FC BARCELONA's commitment to society.

If company names are to include the names of individuals, prior written authorisation from the party concerned or his/her direct family members, if s/he is deceased, is required.

3. Supporters clubs may not create or organise championships, schools, clinics or any other type of sporting activity which uses the FC BARCELONA image without prior and written authorisation from the latter. If a supporters club would like to organise such an event, it must contact the Supporters Club Department and sign the relevant agreement. Any unauthorised use of the FC BARCELONA image may entail the annulment of the supporters club, notwithstanding any claims for damages that may arise.

Article 5: PRIOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Once the Club has agreed in writing that processing may continue, the parties concerned will have 90 days to apply for prior acknowledgement from the Supporters Club Department. To do so, they must fill in the form provided by the Department and include copies of the following documents:

- a) The founding charter, in which the name and membership number of the president must be included (or number of the commitment card holder), as well as the name and membership number (or number of the commitment card holder) of at least five club members or commitment card holders, if the supporters club is domiciled in Catalonia.
- b) The Articles of Association.
- c) A certificate signed by the president and secretary, indicating the number of pre-registered supporters club members at such time and, where applicable, the membership number or the commitment card holder number.

Once the documents have been reviewed and analysed, and the area delegate has reported that the requirements of Article 3 of these regulations have been met, the Club will make a decision in a maximum period of 30 days. If the stipulated requirements are deemed to have been met, a certificate expressly authorising the use of the requested name and/or other distinguishing marks owned by the Club shall be presented.

If 90 days elapse from the date on which written authorisation was given to continue the procedure and no process has begun, the name will be considered released, and a new application will need to be submitted to recommence the process.

Article 6: VALIDATION

Once the procedures in the previous article have been verified, the supporters club shall register the association in the following registries, and in those that replace them, within a maximum period of 90 days:

- Registration and Support Services for Legal Institutions, under the authority of the Directorate General of Law and Legal Institutions, of the Department of Justice, the Government of Catalonia, if domiciled in Catalonia.
- The national associations registry of the Government authority corresponding to the region in which it is domiciled or, alternatively, the associations registry of the relevant autonomous community, for the rest of Spain.
- The national associations registry of the Spanish consulate or embassy in the relevant country, when all or some of the members are Spanish nationals, for supporters clubs abroad. If no supporters club member is Spanish, the registry application shall be processed through the competent body of the country in question. To be recorded in the indicated registries, supporters clubs must be legally incorporated in accordance with applicable legislation.

Once recorded in the registry, the supporters club shall send a copy of the registration to the Club in a maximum period of 30 days from registration.

If the recording procedure in the relevant registry has not begun within a period of 90 days, the name will be released and a new application will need to be submitted to recommence the process.

Article 7: FORMALISATION

The Club's Board of Directors shall be responsible for formalising an association application as an OFFICIAL SUPPORTERS CLUB. Once the requirements stipulated under the regulations have been met and a favourable report from the area delegate has been obtained, the Board of Directors may only reject the formalisation of a supporters club when, after a Supporters Club Ombudsman hearing, the Board of Directors decides that it would be detrimental to other supporters clubs in the same town or area. If rejected, the association will be required to modify its name and logos when these include any references to names, brands or logos of the Club.

Once a supporters club is formalised by the Board of Directors, the Club shall provide written acknowledgement by way of a registered welcome letter, and will record it in the Club's Official Supporters Club Registry. FC BARCELONA will also provide a supporters club identification card, including its name and the OFFICIAL SUPPORTERS CLUB number assigned to it, which is sequential based on membership duration. This card will be renewed annually at the beginning of the season, and will always be subject to the maintenance of the regulatory requirements.

Once the supporters club is recorded in the Supporters Club Registry, it may enjoy all the privileges and special considerations granted thereto by the FC BARCELONA Articles of Association, regarding its involvement in the Club's social activities. All newly created supporters clubs recorded in the Supporters Club Registry may not request tickets for finals or A++ matches until three years have elapsed from registration.

Article 8: OFFICIAL SUPPORTERS CLUB REGISTRY

The Club has an FC BARCELONA Official Supporters Club Registry, indicating the following details:

- a) Address, telephone, fax, email address and official website of the supporters club. The creation and/or existence of branches or head offices differing from the registered offices is not permitted.
- b) Name, surname/s, address, national ID no., email address and contact

telephone number of club supporters, indicating which are members (in such case, the membership number shall also be provided), enabling the Club to interact with the members of the official supporters clubs and provide news and activities of interest as regards FC BARCELONA and their condition of club supporters, via any means or channels, in compliance with that indicated in Article 15 of FC BARCELONA's Articles of Association, which provides special consideration to members of associations supporting the objectives of FC BARCELONA.

- c) Details of the supporters club spokesperson and/or contact person with FC BARCELONA.
- d) Members of the board of directors.

Article 9: MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to maintaining the conditions established under Article 3 at all times, all supporters clubs shall undertake to ensure organisation and operations remain active, in compliance with the formal requirements stipulated by law and these regulations. They also undertake to update details on a yearly basis, preferably between January and June, and to inform FC BARCELONA of such updates via the means determined by its Supporters Club Department at all times.

Information that must be updated by each official supporters club is as follows:

- a) The execution of its annual meeting, by providing a certificate thereof signed by the president and the secretary of the official supporters club.
- b) Any changes to board of director positions, indicating personal details that must be included in the Supporters Club Registry.
- c) Club supporter registrations and cancellations.
- d) Any changes to the registered office, telephone, fax, email address or website.
- e) An activities report, detailing celebrations, occasions and events in which

it has participated, organised (i) by itself, (ii) by other supporters clubs or (iii) by the Club, as well as to provide information about sporting events in which the supporters club has taken part.

Supporters clubs that do not meet the aforementioned requirements shall be considered inactive and may be removed from the Official Supporters Club Registry.

Article 10: LOSS AND RECOVERY OF OFFICIAL SUPPORTERS CLUB STATUS

1. If a supporters club does not comply with the requirements stipulated under Article 3 or it does not update information, in accordance with that stipulated in Article 9, it will be temporarily deregistered and will lose the rights and privileges granted thereto under the identification card. The supporters club may be registered again when it normalises its situation before the following sporting season, without losing membership duration.

If this situation continues over two years, the supporters club will be definitively removed from the Supporters Club Registry, losing acquired rights and membership duration. A supporters club that has lost its official supporters club status, for whatever reason, may recover it provided that it meets all the requirements established under Article 3, and that the area delegate has submitted a favourable report.

- 2. In addition, supporters clubs may lose official status if they:
 - a) Breach any of the obligations established under these regulations.
 - b) Misuse any logos owned by FC BARCELONA, thereby creating confusion in legal relations or unfair competition.
 - c) Promote any kind of violence.
 - d) Cause and/or provoke damage to assets, facilities, rights and/or interests of FC BARCELONA.
 - e) Falsify data submitted to the Club with regard to requirements established under Article 3 for the creation and maintenance of an official supporters

club.

- f) Attack the inherent principles and values of the institution.
- 3. Supporters clubs which engage in one of the aforementioned actions shall be removed temporarily or definitively from the registry, according to the severity of the punishable conduct.

Removal of a supporters club may be initiated by the Club of its own accord or at the request of any party concerned.

Once an enquiry has begun, the Supporters Club Department shall send a copy of the documents to the Supporters Club Ombudsman, the area delegate, and the concerned supporters club. This will allow the area delegate to issue the relevant report within 15 days, and the supporters club to submit an answer to charges, alongside a verification proposal, which may be of interest to it.

Once verification is carried out under the supervision of the Supporters Club Ombudsman, it will issue a proposed decision, which will then be submitted to the FC BARCELONA Board of Directors for a final decision.

II. ORGANISATION OF THE SUPPORTERS CLUB MOVEMENT

Article 11: SOCIAL AREA - SOCIAL COMMISSION

The following constitute the Social Area: the Social Commission, the Supporters Club Commission, the Supporters Club Department, the Advisory Council, and the Supporters Club Ombudsman.

The Social Commission is chaired by the vice president of the Social Area or by his/her delegate, and members are appointed by the Board of Directors, according to the powers granted thereto in Article 29, section e) of the Club's Articles of Association. The Social Commission holds the powers and duties granted thereto by the Board of Directors, in a bid to maintain, promote and develop the Club's relationship with the FC BARCELONA supporters clubs, among others.

Article 12: SUPPORTERS CLUB COMMISSION

The Supporters Club Commission is chaired by the vice president of the Social Area or by his/her delegate, and members are appointed by the Social Commission.

Among others, the Supporters Club Commission aims to take part in representing FC BARCELONA at occasions and events organised by supporters clubs of the Club.

Members of the Supporters Club Commission may attend Supporters Club Advisory Council meetings organised by the Club, according to the discretion of the FC BARCELONA Social Commission.

Article 13: SUPPORTERS CLUB DEPARTMENT

The Supporters Club Department coordinates and develops relationships with official supporters clubs, and is involved in serving, informing and advising these supporters clubs.

Article 14: SUPPORTERS CLUB OMBUDSMAN

1. The Supporters Club Ombudsman is responsible for ensuring goodwill amongst the various Barça supporters clubs, as well as for honestly and efficiently applying agreements between the supporters clubs and the Club; always through coordination and awareness of the Supporters Club Advisory Council and the parties involved.

2. It has the authority to:

- a) Defend and protect the rights of supporters clubs, provided that suggested negotiations do not encroach on the authority of the Member's Trustee.
- b) Act as a mediator in an attempt to reach a consensus as regards disputes between supporters clubs and Club management, from which it may obtain the information it deems necessary. Likewise, it may also do so for disputes between supporters clubs, if called upon by the Club or a member of

the Supporters Club Advisory Council. Similarly, it may do so for disputes between a supporters club and the area delegate of the Supporters Club Advisory Council, as requested by a supporters club or by the delegate. If called upon by a supporters club, the delegate must be informed.

- c) Submit suggestions to the Board of Directors which it deems appropriate as regards defending the rights of supporters clubs.
- d) Understand, be aware and have a say in preparing the list of supporters clubs recognised by the institution.
- e) Attend the Supporters Club Advisory Council meetings with the right to speak but not to vote and, if appropriate, to attend supporters club events.
- f) Participate in joint meetings between the Supporters Club Advisory Council and the Social Commission with the right to speak but not to vote.
- 3. The Ombudsman shall exclusively become involved when requested by:
 - a) The president or the representative of an official supporters club.
 - b) A member of the Supporters Club Advisory Council.
 - c) An executive or board member of the Club.
- 4. As an institutional member, it will represent the Club at events it is requested to attend by supervisors of the Social Area and the Club's Institutional Area.

Article 15: SUPPORTERS CLUB ADVISORY COUNCIL

- 1. The Supporters Club Advisory Council shall be made up of as many delegates as there are different geographical areas. The Advisory Council shall meet at the FC BARCELONA offices at least twice a year. The meetings shall be chaired by the FC BARCELONA president and/or vice president of the Social Area, or his/her delegate. In addition, Advisory Council meetings may be called to discuss specific issues whenever deemed necessary.
- 2. Delegates that make up the Supporters Club Advisory Council are elected

from each of the geographical areas indicated herein or those that are newly created, and according to the procedures established in these regulations.

3. The Advisory Council is responsible for:

a) Producing and preparing proposals related to content management of supporters club activities, by jointly taking part with the Club in putting projects in place that aim to improve the representativeness and public awareness of FC BARCELONA throughout the world.

b) Promoting relations between supporters clubs, considering their suggestions and submitting reports regarding issues raised.

c) Communicating and providing supporters clubs with information, recommendations and proposals drawn up by FC BARCELONA.

d) Drawing up the list of candidates to organise the supporters club world meeting.

4. Advisory Council delegates will also be informed of all occasions and/or events that are held in their district and will attempt to attend them.

5. Delegate elections to the Supporters Club Advisory Council are held every four years, unless the Club deems it necessary to hold them in a shorter space of time.

Article 16: GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

1. An 'area' is understood as a region that brings together various official supporters clubs for reasons of geographical proximity or natural connection.

2. The official supporters clubs from region 1 are distributed over 21 geographical areas:

AREA 1: EAST BARCELONA East Barcelona city

AREA 2: WEST BARCELONA

West Barcelona city and l'Hospitalet de Llobregat

AREA 3: BARCELONÈS NORTH

Badalona, Santa Coloma de Gramanet and Sant Adrià del Besòs

AREA 4: VALLÈS ORIENTAL

AREA 5: VALLÈS OCCIDENTAL

AREA 6: MARESME

AREA 7: BAIX LLOBREGAT

AREA 8: ALT PENEDÈS/ANOIA/GARRAF

AREA 9: BAGES/BERGUEDÀ/CERDANYA

AREA 10: OSONA/RIPOLLÈS

AREA 11: NORTH GIRONA

Alt Empordà and Baix Empordà

AREA 12: SOUTH GIRONA

Garrotxa, Gironès, Pla de l'Estany and Selva

AREA 13: NORTH TARRAGONA

Tarragonès, Alt Camp, Baix Camp, Baix Penedès, Conca de Barberà and Priorat

AREA 14: TERRES DE L'EBRE

Baix Ebre, Montsià, Ribera d'Ebre, Terra Alta and Franja Sud

AREA 15: SOUTH LLEIDA

Garrigues, Pla d'Urgell, Segarra, Urgell, Segrià and Franja Central

AREA 16: NORTH-WEST

Alt Urgell, Alta Ribagorça, Noguera, Pallars Jussà, Pallars Sobirà,

Solsonès, Vall d'Aran and Franja Nord

AREA 17: NORTH CATALONIA/ANDORRA

AREA 18: BALEARIC ISLANDS

AREA 19: COUNTIES OF CASTELLÓN

AREA 20: COUNTIES OF VALENCIA

AREA 21: COUNTIES OF ALICANTE

3. The official supporters clubs from region 2 are geographically divided as follows:

AREA 22: EXTREMADURA

AREA 23: CASTILLA-LA MANCHA

AREA 24: CASTILLA Y LEÓN

AREA 25: CANARY ISLANDS

AREA 26: GALICIA

AREA 27: LA RIOJA/ARAGON/NAVARRA

AREA 28: MADRID

AREA 29: MURCIA

AREA 30: BASQUE COUNTRY

AREA 31: ASTURIAS/CANTABRIA

AREA 32: WEST ANDALUSIA

AREA 33: CENTRAL ANDALUSIA

AREA 34: EAST ANDALUSIA

4. Region 3, 'WORLD', is made up of the foreign official supporters clubs grouped into one area (area 35), and shall be represented by one delegate.

- 5. Through express written request from an official supporters club, FC BARCELONA may decide to authorise the change of a corresponding area according to the current geographical distribution to another, provided that this change is justified based on reasons of geographical proximity or road connections, and the Club is in possession of a favourable report by the concerned delegates of the Advisory Council.
- 6. The distribution and names of the various geographical regions and areas may be reviewed at any time by FC BARCELONA, according to its discretion, or when it is necessary to adapt them to administrative territorial changes.

III. ELECTION PROCEDURES OF THE SUPPORTERS CLUB ADVISORY COUNCIL

Article 17: COMMENCEMENT, TERM OF OFFICE AND CALENDAR

One delegate will be elected for each area. Delegates from each area who shall make up the Supporters Club Advisory Council shall be elected by a free, secret and equal vote. They shall be appointed for a maximum term of four years and may be elected for a maximum of two consecutive terms per delegate. FC BARCELONA shall call the Supporters Club Advisory Council elections, by establishing the electoral calendar and the voting day. When the election is called, the Advisory Council shall be dissolved and all members shall be considered to have resigned from their positions.

Article 18: CANDIDATE CONDITIONS

- 1. A delegate candidate must be a president or vice president of a supporters club and, in all cases, a member of FC BARCELONA.
- 2. To be nominated a delegate candidate, support must be gained in writing via ballots provided by FC BARCELONA, from at least 15% of the supporters clubs in the relevant area. Each supporters club may support one candidate.
- 3. The Club must be informed in writing of all delegate candidates sufficiently beforehand, in accordance with the terms established under the electoral calendar, and must include the aforementioned ballots. Individuals who have

gained necessary support shall be deemed candidates. A candidate list shall be available to all supporters clubs at the FC BARCELONA facilities.

Article 19: ELECTION SYSTEM

- 1. The election system will be the same for all areas:
 - One polling station is set up at the FC BARCELONA facilities. Voting must coincide with a match of the first football team.
 - The date, place and time of voting shall be established when the elections are called.
 - Tables shall be set up for each represented geographical area, in numerical order and in keeping with the geographical area number.
 - A Club representative shall be present at each table and shall be responsible for it.
 - The ballots and envelopes for voting shall be published by FC BARCELONA with the same format, paper and colour for each candidate.
 - Voters must demonstrate their identity by displaying their national ID cards and the identification card of the supporters club to which they belong.
- 2. Each supporters club shall vote for its president or, in the absence thereof, the vice president or manager previously nominated and authorised in writing by the president or the secretary of the supporters club, who must also notify FC BARCELONA of this nomination. Each elector may vote for one candidate in his/her area.
- 3. If only one valid candidate stands for election in an area, s/he shall automatically be elected as the area delegate. If no valid candidate stands for election in an area, the Club's Social Commission shall begin a new electoral process solely for said area, in order to fill the vacant delegate seat in the shortest period possible. The term of office shall conclude at the same time as other areas, regardless of when the corresponding delegate began his/her term of office.

Personal or postal votes shall be accepted.

Article 20: POSTAL VOTING

- 1. In the case of postal voting, FC BARCELONA shall provide the supporters club in question with ballots indicating the candidate names of the relevant area and the envelope for voting, with sufficient notice.
- 2. Each president shall place the ballot with the elected candidate's name inside the envelope provided by the Club, and shall display the name of the area to which s/he belongs on the outside. Once closed, the envelope shall be placed in a second post-paid envelope, also provided by the Club, as well as (1) photocopies of the front of the national ID cards of the voting president and the secretary of the supporters club, (2) a photocopy of the supporters club identification card, and (3) the document provided by the Club, signed by the president and the secretary of the supporters club. The envelope shall then be sent by post to FC BARCELONA.
- 3. The vote in question must be at the Supporters Club Department of FC BARCELONA on the date called for the election. If an elector submits two or more votes by mail, they shall all be considered null and void.
- 4. If an elector visits a polling station to vote after having done so by mail, the latter shall be considered not to have been received.
- 5. On the voting day, the individual responsible for each table shall ensure that all stipulated requirements are met. The closed envelopes containing the ballots shall be produced and shall be placed in the relevant ballot box for each area.

Article 21: VOTF COUNTING

1. After voting has finalised, the vote counting process shall be carried out. Vote counting shall take place over one event chaired by the manager appointed by the Social Commission, with the assistance of representatives from supporters clubs which wish to do so.

- 2. If there is a tie between two or more candidates, the candidate from the supporters club with the longest standing membership recorded in the FC BARCELONA Official Supporters Club Registry shall be elected as delegate.
- 3. The voting process shall be supervised by FC BARCELONA and by the representatives nominated by the candidates. The candidate with the most votes shall be named the delegate of the Advisory Council by the director of the Social Commission.

Article 22: LOSS OF DELEGATE STATUS

- 1. Individuals shall lose their delegate status and all associated benefits when they initially or subsequently do not comply with the requirements stipulated under these regulations to be elected as such (being a president or vicepresident of a supporters club and being a member of FC BARCELONA).
- 2. If a delegate seat becomes available in a specific area, the Social Commission shall begin a new electoral process solely for said area, in order to fill the vacant delegate seat in the shortest period possible. The term of office shall conclude at the same time as other areas, regardless of when the corresponding delegate began his/her term of office.
- 3. Irrespective of the duties of delegates and the Supporters Club Advisory Council, the FC BARCELONA official supporters clubs shall continue to maintain a direct relationship with the Club for all purposes in their interest, if they should so wish.

IV. CELEBRATIONS, EVENTS AND PROTOCOL

Article 23: EVENT PLANNING

1. Supporters clubs shall individually or collectively hold the gatherings, meetings and events (hereinafter, 'events') they deem appropriate, by always complying with the aims defined in their Articles of Association and the inherent values of the Club. For representation purposes, FC BARCELONA shall give priority to group events; that is, those which involve more than one

supporters club ('supporters club events').

2. Supporters clubs which are interested in holding events and that request the participation of FC BARCELONA representatives shall submit their proposal and schedule in writing to the Supporters Club Department of the Club with at least one month's notice. Supporters clubs located outside of Catalonia organising events, and those for which FC BARCELONA representation has been requested, shall endeavour to ensure they coincide with a match of any of the Club's teams.

3. The proposal shall contain:

- a) The type of event.
- b) The day, month, time and place the event will be held.
- c) The schedule.
- d) The local, municipal, regional, provincial, invited authorities, etc., and expected attendance.
- e) The approximate number of expected guests.
- 4. The Club shall review all the received participation proposals and shall decide on the events to be attended.

Article 24: CLUB PARTICIPATION

1. For all cases in which the participation of Club representatives has been requested, FC BARCELONA shall decide which events to attend or not. If it decides to attend, it shall determine which individuals shall represent it at each event (president, managers, members of the Supporters Club Commission or other representatives nominated by the Club), according to their availability. If the Club takes part in the event, it shall establish the schedule protocol. Under all circumstances, participating FC BARCELONA representatives shall be considered the highest authority at the event, as well as the local representatives of the town or place in which the event is being held, and/ or other institutional authorities, if applicable. The supporters club shall be

notified of the attendance of Club representatives, provided that the supporters club has provided the notice established in Article 23, with maximum notice of three weeks. FC BARCELONA may vary the period and representation at any time, based on the schedule and/or subsequent commitments.

- 2. FC BARCELONA shall give priority to representing events according to their importance and in the following order:
 - a) 50th anniversary celebrations of supporters clubs.
 - b) Area events.
 - c) 25th anniversary celebrations of supporters clubs.
 - d) Openings of newly incorporated supporters club head offices.
 - e) Openings of new premises of already incorporated supporters clubs.
 - f) Events organised by supporters clubs every five years after being founded.
 - g) Other anniversaries, ceremonies, meetings, conferences and other celebrations.

FC BARCELONA shall also take into consideration the number of guests, the supporters club length of membership, if any sporting travel is to coincide with the event, the supporters club activities, etc., to nominate an event representative.

Article 25: SUPPORTERS CLUB WORLD MEETING

- 1. Once a year, a supporters club shall be in charge of organising the supporters club world meeting alongside FC BARCELONA. The Club and the host supporters club shall organise the event in close collaboration, in order to boost the quality and quantity of the actions and activities, the group attendance of club supporters, the utmost media coverage of the event and, ultimately, the promotion of the spirit and values of FC BARCELONA.
- 2. FC BARCELONA must authorise all agreements regarding patronage,

sponsorship and/or broadcasting through any media about the world meeting in writing.

- 3. All of the supporters clubs that would like to host the world meeting must submit a written request to FC BARCELONA, within the term between the end of a world meeting and the following month of March. Under all circumstances, the application must be received by the Club four months before the meeting to be held immediately before that for which organisation is being requested.
- 4. A candidate supporters club must demonstrate through documentation:
 - a) Its organisational capacity.
 - b) Sufficient materials and human resources.
 - c) The minimum availability of infrastructure to hold the event.
 - d) The necessary institutional support, as well as a draft of the event schedule.

A candidate supporters club is also encouraged to have a favourable report from the delegate of the corresponding area.

- 5. FC BARCELONA shall call on the members of the Supporters Club Advisory Council to meet at the Club's offices, enabling the candidate supporters clubs to submit their candidature and the relevant documentation. Through its delegate, each area shall then call on the supporters clubs in the region to notify, discuss and vote for the various candidates.
- 6. Subsequently, the members of the Supporters Club Advisory Council who are meeting at the FC BARCELONA offices may vote for the possible candidates in order of preference, in accordance with the result of the vote in their area, and the candidate with the most points shall be declared the winner. In the event of a tie, a second vote between the candidates who received the same number of points shall be held.
- 7. The winning candidate and the date the world meeting shall be held during the following year shall be indicated at the world meeting of the current year, during the congress, if applicable. Once the winning candidate has been

named the 'OFFICIAL HOST SUPPORTERS CLUB', it shall form an organising world meeting committee alongside FC BARCELONA and the local authorities concerned, in order to carry out all the tasks required to put in place a successful event. When carrying out its activities, the organising committee may collaborate with the corresponding area delegate.

8. The world meeting may include a forum, congress and/or conference about current issues regarding FC BARCELONA and the official supporters clubs.

FINAL PROVISIONS

One: MODIFICATIONS TO REGULATIONS

All issues and/or incidents that may arise through the application of these regulations shall be resolved by the FC BARCELONA Social Commission and the Advisory Council. These regulations shall be interpreted and developed by the FC BARCELONA Social Commission.

Two: EFFECTIVE DATE

These regulations were approved by the FC BARCELONA Board of Directors on the meeting held on the 23rd of January 2012.