



**RULES AND
REGULATIONS
FUTSAL**

DCL RULES AND REGULATIONS FUTSAL

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Article 1

Organisation of the Deaf Champions League Competition

Committees and Bodies

1.01 The following Committees and Bodies are set up for matters related to the Deaf Champions League (DCL) competition;

- a) The Organising Committee supports the DCL in an advisory capacity on all competition related matter.
- b) The Referees Committee deals with all refereeing related matters
- c) The Control and Disciplinary Body deal with matters concerning control and discipline in accordance with the DCL's Disciplinary Regulations.
- d) The Appeals Body deals with appeals lodged against decisions of the Control and Disciplinary Body.

Responsibilities of the Organising Committee and Clubs

1.02 The clubs are responsible for the behaviour of their players, officials, members, supporters and any person carrying out a function at a match on their behalf.

1.03 The Organising Committee is responsible for order and security before, during and after the matches. The Organising Committee may be called to account for incidents of any kind and may be disciplined.

1.04 Each club and Organising Committee shall, irrespective of DCL's insurance, arrange their own insurance coverage with reputable insurers at their own cost, in relation to any and all risks, according to the following principles;

- a) Each club shall arrange and maintain insurance coverage to fully cover all of its risks in connection with its participation in the competition.
- b) The Organising Committee shall arrange and maintain insurance coverage to fully cover all of its risks in connection with the staging and organisation of the final match.

1.05 The clubs undertake that their team will arrive at the host venue by the evening before the DCL competition starts.

Cup and medals

1.06 A challenge cup donated by DCL is presented to the winning club for one year. The holders are responsible in the event of the loss of or any damage to the cup, as well as for insuring the cup. The holders must return the cup to the DCL prior to the beginning of the next DCL competition. The challenge cup becomes the permanent property of any club which wins

the trophy three consecutive times or five times in total. Once a cycle of three successive wins or five in total has been completed, the club concerned starts a new cycle from zero.

- 1.07 Twenty medals are presented to the winning club and the runners-up club. Additional medals may not be produced.
- 1.08 Each club that completes in the DCL competition will be awarded a commemorative diploma/plaque.

Match dates

- 1.09 All match dates are binding on all concerned. The following principles apply to this competition:
- a) DCL matches are played on the dates set by the DCL and Organising Committee.
 - b) It must not be in conflict with other deaf sporting activities wherever possible. (e.g. European Football Championship; Deaflympics; Deaf World Cup; etc.).

Final decision on Competition Schedule/Rules

- 1.10 DCL and the Organising Committee (OC) shall publish before the competition starts their final decisions on any parts of the Rules and Regulations that have not been declared within this document, for example;
- a) The duration (playing time) of the matches throughout the competition.
 - b) The duration of extra time per half for the Final match.
 - c) The matches being played with 'no stoppage time' and 'with stoppage time'.

Article 2.

Entries for the Deaf Champions League Competition

Number of qualifying Clubs for entry to Deaf Champions League

- 2.01 Qualifiers for the DCL comes from the results of the domestic Deaf League or Cup competitions affiliated to their National Deaf Futsal League (If a country has Cup and League, then the champions from the domestic League have priority to go to DCL).
- 2.02 DCL qualifiers are invited with their Federation's approval on the following basis:
- a) One representative/team from a country with 3 to 15 clubs for Men or 2 to 8 clubs for Women: winner of the top domestic Deaf cup or league championship.
 - b) Two representatives/teams from a country with 16 to 30 clubs for Men or 9 or more clubs for Women: winner and runner-up of the top domestic Deaf cup or league championship.

- c) Three representatives/teams from a country with 31 or more clubs for Men: winner, runner-up and third placed club of the top domestic Deaf cup or domestic league championship.

Title-holder and Host Club

- 2.03 The DCL title-holder is guaranteed a place in the Group Stage even if it does not qualify for the competition through its domestic cup or league championship.
- 2.04 The Host Club shall have the right to participate in the competition. The team's entry shall be in the Group Stage.

Admission criteria

- 2.05 To be eligible to participate in the competition, a club must fulfil the following criteria:
 - a) It must have qualified for the competition on sporting merit;
 - b) It must be registered under its national country's sporting body;
 - c) It must confirm in writing that the club itself, as well as its players and officials, agree to respect the statutes, regulations and decisions of DCL;
 - d) It must fill in the official entry form, which must reach the DCL by deadline together with all documents, which the DCL deem necessary for ascertaining compliance with the administration criteria.

Admission procedures

- 2.06 Clubs which fulfil the admission criteria are informed of their admission to the competition by the DCL.
- 2.07 A club which is not admitted to the competition shall be replaced by the next best-place club in the top domestic league or cup championship of the same national association/federation, provided it fulfils the admission criteria. Only the top four teams in the top domestic league or cup championship will be considered for admission.
- 2.08 The DCL may carry out spots checks and/or investigations with clubs at any time after they have been admitted to the competition to ensure that the admission criteria continues to be met for as long as they remain in the competition. If the spot check and/or investigation reveal that admission criteria were not fulfilled at the time a club entered the competition or are no longer being met in the course of the competition, the club concerned is liable to disciplinary measures in accordance with the DCL's Disciplinary Regulations.
- 2.09 The clubs must pay the entry fee by the date set by the DCL. When DCL sends out the official invitations to the clubs to play in the DCL, they will be informed of the date when the entry fee must be paid by. If entry fee is not paid by the set date, then DCL can admit an alternative club into the competition.
- 2.10 Prior to the start of the DCL competition, the license for each player (individual) to be paid to DCL shall be 5€ and for each official the fee shall be 5€. The fees shall be paid before being allowed to participate.

Duties of the Clubs

2.11 On entering the DCL competition, participating clubs agree:

- a) To pay the entry fee decided between the DCL and the OC, this is to be debited directly to DCL;
- b) To pay the license fees by cash and any outstanding fees/fines prior to starting the DCL competition;
- c) To comply with the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game* issued by the IFAB (International Football Association Board);
- d) To provide appropriate medical information on any of their players to assist with any possible emergencies;
- e) To field their strongest team throughout the competition;
- f) To make every reasonable effort to attend the award ceremony at the end of the competition;
- g) Not to represent DCL without DCL prior written approval.

2.12 The club may use its name and/or logo provided all the following requirements are satisfied:

- a) The name is mentioned in the statutes of the club;
- b) It is registered with their national Association/Federation and used in national competitions.

Eligibility of players

2.13 Each club shall take the following provisions into account when selecting its **squad**:

- a) All the players must show passports or ID for verification of their names.
- b) All the players shall be eligible for selection for the club in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Application of the EDSO Constitution.
- c) All players shall be eligible to play for the club, if they are a registered member of the National Deaf Sports Federation of the current year.
- d) All players shall be eligible to play for the club if they are registered on the any Cup/League Final team sheet, supplied by the National Deaf Sports Federation or its associated sports organisation affiliated to EDSO, together with the current registration list of club members from the National Deaf Sports Federation as of 1st January of each year.
- e) No player shall be eligible to play for two or more futsal clubs at the same time in any one season.
- f) A player from outside Europe (e.g. a person with a passport from Africa, Asia, etc.) is eligible to play for a European club in the DCL competition. If the player has a European working/residence permit for the country that they are currently living in then this player will not be counted as a 'Non-European' player. A 'Non-European' player is

classified as someone who does not have a European passport and does not have a European working/residence permit. **See Rule 4.15 – Match Team Sheet.**

- 2.14 There is no age limited in the DCL competitions. For any player under the age of 16, the club must provide parental authorisation. The player's parental authorisation must be sent by the Club to the DCL at least 4 weeks before the start of the DCL competition.
- 2.15 Each club must submit their list of players and a maximum of 4 club officials, to the DCL at least 4 weeks before the competition starts. The list of players must provide the full name, date of birth and any medical conditions, which the DCL and OC need to be aware of (for example, diabetes, allergies, etc.). This is important in case of emergencies during the competition and possible communication difficulties. Once the club has registered their **final** list of players (i.e. maximum of 16 players, 7 days before the competition), they can make a maximum of 3 changes to list of players and officials before the competition starts with the approval of their National Federation.

If the club does not send the list of players on time before the DCL competition, the following fines are to be imposed by DCL:

a)	Less than 4 week before the DCL Competition	20€
b)	Less than 3 week before the DCL Competition	50€
c)	Less than 2 week before the DCL Competition	75€
d)	Less than 1 week before the DCL Competition	100€

DCL have discretion as to implementing/forfeiting the fine on receipt of a written request from the club with appropriate reason(s) given as to why the club has submitted their Players List late.

- 2.16 Any club found guilty of fielding an ineligible player shall forfeit the match with three points awarded to the opposing team if a Group Stage match and a score of 5-0, or greater, depending on the score of the match. A fine of 100€ will be imposed on the offending club for playing an ineligible player.

Deafness

- 2.17 Only Deaf and hard of hearing players can compete in the DCL competitions.
- 2.18 Every National Deaf Futsal Association or Federation is fully responsible to examine the hearing level of each of its players. However, the DCL is allowed to carry out random checks during the competition phase, including requesting the ICSD ID Number of players that are included in team's players list.
- 2.19 Participant's deafness is defined as a hearing loss of at least 55 dB per tone average (PTA) in the better ear (three-tone pure tone average at 500, 1000 and 2000 Hertz, air conduction, ISO 1969 Standard).

- 2.20 It is strictly forbidden for a player to use any kind of hearing aid(s)/amplification or external cochlear implant parts during the match. Teams which field a player wearing an amplification device will have that player suspended for a minimum of 3 matches in the competition. The CDB will review the case and decide if the suspension is to be increased. During the match, the guilty player will be dismissed from the Field of Play (i.e. red card) and cannot be replaced during the match. A fine of 100€ will be imposed on the offending club and the match result shall stand.

Players' registration and numbers

- 2.21 For the final registration of players in the DCL Futsal competition, each team must have a **minimum of 10 players**. The maximum number of players per team is 16. Each club can submit a maximum of 20 players on their Players List, but the Players List **must be reduced to only 16 players at least 7 days** before the competition starts. A fine of 50€ will be imposed by DCL on the offending club if they fail to confirm their **final** list of 16 players.
- 2.22 From the first match of the competition, all registered players must wear set numbers between 1 and 20. The number 1 shirt shall be for the goalkeeper. No number may be used by more than one player and no player may use more than one number in the course of the competition.

Article 3.

Venues

Venue inspections

- 3.01 The DCL may carry out pitch inspections at any time before and during the competition to check whether the required structural criteria have been and are still met. Any issues are referred to the DCL's Control and Disciplinary Body, which will decide on appropriate measures in accordance with the DCL's Disciplinary Regulations.

Alternative venues

- 3.02 If, at any time during the competition, the DCL deems that, for whatever reason, some venues may not be fit for staging a match, the DCL may consult with the Organising Committee (OC) and clubs concerned, and ask the OC to propose an alternative venue, in accordance with the requirements of DCL. Should such the OC not be able to propose an acceptable alternative venue within the deadline set by the DCL; the DCL will select an alternative venue and make all the necessary arrangements for the staging of the match with the relevant OC and local authorities. In both cases, the costs of staging the match are borne by OC. DCL will take a final decision on the match venue in due time.

The pitches

- 3.03 The OC shall undertake to make every reasonable effort to ensure that the pitches are playable.
- 3.04 The use of artificial turf, concrete and tarmac are not allowed within the DCL's competitions.
- 3.05 The pitch shall comply with the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game*, including the markings of substitution zones.
- 3.06 The pitch dimensions acceptable for the DCL competitions are;
- Length (touch line) – Minimum: 25 metres. Maximum: 42 metres.
- Width (goal line) – Minimum: 16 metres. Maximum: 25 metres.

Scoreboard

- 3.07 The OC shall as a minimum arrange for manual match recording displays (showing goals scored and team fouls) to be used at the venue(s) during the DCL competition. Electronic scoreboards would be the preferred option for DCL competitions.

Article 4.

Competition System and Regulations

The format of the Competition

- 4.01 The DCL competition shall be played in two stages – Group Stage and Cup (knock-out) System. The clubs entered for the competition shall be divided into groups with seeding applied and by drawing lots in public. The draw for the quarter-finals and semi-finals shall also be conducted in public before the start of the competition.
- 4.02 The format of the competition may be changed during the competition only for exceptional reasons, which is determined by the DCL and the OC.

Group Stages

- 4.03 The Group Stage will be competed in League format. The number of leagues is decided by the DCL and the OC.

Quarter-finals

- 4.04 The eight winners of the Group Stage contests the quarter-finals. The quarter-finals are played under a Cup (knock-out) System. The team which scores the greater of one match qualifies for the semi-final. If the result ends in a draw, extra time will not be played. The winners shall be determined by kicks from the penalty mark (6 metres).

Semi-finals

- 4.05 The four winners of the quarter-finals contest the semi-finals. The semi-finals are played under the Cup (knock out) System as one single match. If the result ends in a draw, extra time of two periods shall be played. If one of the teams scores more than the other after completing extra time, that team shall be declared the winners. If the two teams are still equal after extra time, the winners shall be determined by kicks from the penalty mark (6 metres).

Final

- 4.06 The final is played as one single match. If the result ends in a draw, extra time of two periods shall be played. If one of the teams scores more than the other after completing extra time, that team shall be declared the winners. If the two teams are still equal after extra time, the winners shall be determined by kicks from the penalty mark (6 metres).

Play-off matches

- 4.07 The DCL and OC may arrange within the competition for clubs to have further matches when eliminated from the Group Stage, Quarter-finals and Semi-finals. The extra matches may be arranged to decide on the rankings of the clubs within the competition, e.g. 3rd/4th place, 5th to 8th place, 9th to 12th place, 13th to 16th place, etc. These matches will be played as one single match under a Cup (knock-out) System. If the result ends in a draw, extra time will not be played. The winners shall be determined by kicks from the penalty mark (6 metres).

Ranking of Clubs in the Group Stage

- 4.08 After each match played within the Group Stage, the points awarded shall be 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 point for a defeat.
- 4.09 The ranking in each Group will be determined as follows;
- a) the greatest number of points in the Group;
- 4.10 If two or more teams are still equal, the following criteria will be used to determine the ranking within the Group;
- a) the greatest number of points in the Group between the teams concerned;
 - b) the goal difference in the Group between the teams concerned;
 - c) the greatest number of goals scored in the group between the teams concerned;
 - d) the goal difference in all the Group matches;
 - e) the greatest number of goals scored in all the Group matches.
 - f) the Fair Play record (looking at the cautions first then the sending offs) in the Group between the team concerned;

g) the drawing of lots by the Deaf Champions League.

Laws of the Game

4.11 Matches are played in conformity with the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game* issued by the IFAB (International Football Association Board).

4.12 Any disagreement in the interpretation of the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game*, then the English version is the authoritative text.

4.13 **Accumulative Fouls:**

If the matches are **10 minutes or less** per period, then **3 Accumulative Fouls** per period shall be allowed per team.

If the matches are **15 minutes or less** per period, then **4 Accumulative Fouls** per period shall be allowed per team.

If the matches are **20 minutes or less** per period, then **5 Accumulative Fouls** per period shall be allowed per team.

Match sheets

4.14 Before the match, each team must hand in a completed match sheet. The match sheet must be properly completed in BLOCK CAPITALS, and signed by the captain.

4.15 Each club may only be permitted to have **three 'Non-European' players** within their team sheet per match (i.e. within the 5 players and 7 substitutes for their match). 'Non-European' players for DCL competitions, means players who do not have European passports and do not have European working/residence permits. (See Rule 2.13 f).

4.16 The 5 first-named players must commence the match. Up to seven other players are designated as substitutes. The numbers on the player's shirt must correspond with the numbers indicated on the match sheet. The goalkeepers and team captain must be identified.

4.17 Both clubs must hand their match sheet to the Referees Liaison Officer (RLO) at least 30 minutes before kick-off.

4.18 The Referees Liaison Officer may ask to see the personal identity card/passports of the players whose names are listed on the match sheet. Each player participating in a DCL competition match must be in possession of a player's registration licence issued by his national Association/Federation or an official personal identity card/passport, containing his photograph and date of birth.

4.19 If the match sheet is not completed and returned in time, a fine of 10€ will be imposed by DCL.

- 4.20 If there are fewer than three players in one of the teams, the match will be abandoned. In this case, the Control and Disciplinary Body decides on the consequences.

Match balls

- 4.21 For all matches, the balls must comply with the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game*, which are selected and supplied by the OC.
- 4.22 Three match balls must be made available to the Referee for each match.

Players' equipment

- 4.23 The players must comply with the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game* for equipment (shirts, shorts, socks, shin guards, footwear, **no jewellery**, taping of socks, etc.). The Lead Referee decision is final if decides that the player does not comply with Law 4.
- 4.24 Each goalkeeper shall wear colours that are different from the other players for both teams and the referees.
- 4.25 The home team should always wear their official first-choice kit announced to the DCL on the entry form, unless the team concerned agree otherwise in due time, in which case, details should be submitted to the DCL in writing. If the referee decides on the spot that the colours of the two teams could lead to confusion, the **“away”** team must make a change for reason of practicality. The change can be a combination of first-choice kit and reserve kit.
- 4.26 For the final, both teams may wear their first-choice kit. However, if there is a clash, the team designated as the **“away”** team must wear alternative colours. The change can be a combination of first-choice and reserve kit. If a clash still exists and the Lead Referee is unable to get the two teams to agree, the DCL will decide on the colours.

Technical Area and substitution of players

- 4.27 Only four team officials, one of whom must be a team First Aider/Physio, and seven substitute players are allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench within the Technical Area, i.e. a total of 11 persons. The names of all these persons and their functions must be listed on the match sheet.
- 4.28 Only one team official may remain standing in the Technical Area to give instructions to their players.
- 4.29 The number of substitutions that may be made during a match is unlimited. All substitutions must be made as per the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game*. Any the substitutes listed on the match sheet may take part in the match. A player who has been substituted may take further part in the match.
- 4.30 All the substitutes must wear a warm-up bib during the matches. When a substitute comes onto the pitch, they must hand the bib to the player that they are replacing, who must then

wear the bib when in the Technical Area. The bibs must be in colours not clashing with the two team's shirt colours during the match.

Duration of the matches, half-time interval and extra time

- 4.31 The duration of the matches is determined by the DCL and the OC for all matches played in the DCL competition.
- 4.32 The duration of the matches may be different in the Group Stage and Cup (knock-out) System (e.g. quarter-final, semi-final, finals, etc.). The maximum duration of each half of the match is 20 minutes. The duration of the matches may be with '**no stoppage time**' or '**with stoppage time**'. The decision of '**no stoppage time**' or '**with stoppage time**' is determined by the DCL and OC.
- 4.33 The half-time interval period is determined by the DCL and OC, up to a maximum of 10 minutes, for all matches played in the DCL competition. The Lead Referee may decide to make the half time interval longer but only with the agreement of the OC for exceptional reasons.
- 4.34 The duration of the extra time for Cup (knock-out) System matches is determined by the DCL and OC. The maximum duration of each half of the extra time played is 5 minutes. The duration of the extra time may be with '**no stoppage time**' or '**with stoppage time**'. The decision of '**no stoppage time**' or '**with stoppage time**' is determined by the DCL and OC.

Time Out

- 4.35 For all the Group Stages matches and the matches played to determine placing's from 3rd downwards, each team has the opportunity to take ONE 1 minute time-out during the match. The time-out can be taken in the 1st or 2nd period of the matches.
- 4.36 For all knock-out system matches from quarter-finals, semi-finals and final, each team has the opportunity to take a 1 minute time-out **for each period of play**, but not during extra time in Cup (knock-out) System matches. The time-out is done in accordance to the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game*.
- 4.37 If the matches are played as 10 minutes each half, there shall be no 'Time Out' at all.

Kicks from the penalty mark

- 4.38 For matches played under the Cup (knock-out) System after the Group Stage, kicks from the penalty mark are taken in accordance with the procedure laid down in the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game* issued by the IFAB.
- 4.39 The referee decides which goal will be used for the kicks from the penalty mark (6 metres).
- 4.40 To ensure that the procedure is strictly observed, the Lead Referee is assisted by the Second Referee (and Third Referee and Time-keeper if appointed), who also note down the numbers of players on each team who take kicks from the penalty mark.

Match Officials (Referees)

- 4.41 The match officials must arrange to arrive at the venue 1 hour before the start of the competition, or their appointed match if at a later kick-off time.
- 4.42 Each Referee shall use a flag as an aid of communication with the players during the match.
- 4.43 If Lead Referee or Second Referee is unable to carry out their duties before or during the match as a result of injury (or otherwise), then the Third Referee will step up. If no Third Referee is appointed to the match, then the Referees Liaison Officer will find a replacement from their list of match officials at the competition.
- 4.44 During the competition, the match officials are taken care of by a Referee Liaison Officer, who is an official representative on the Referees Committee for the competition.
- 4.45 The DCL and OC in consultation with the Referees Committee decides on the number match officials (Lead Referee, Second Referee, Third Referee and Time-keeper) to be appointed to each match during the competition for the Group Stage, Quarter-finals and Play-off matches.
- 4.46 For the Semi-finals, 3rd/4th Play-off match and Final, 4 match officials (Lead Referee, Second Referee, Third Referee and Time-keeper) shall be appointed for each match.
- 4.47 The Referees Committee shall make the match official appointments in consultation with DCL.

Match Report Forms

- 4.48 After each match, the Lead Referee shall complete a Match Report Form and pass to the Referees Liaison Officer immediately. The Match Report Form shall include;
 - a) The goals scored during the match.
 - b) Any cautions, sending offs during the match.
 - c) Any misconduct /unsporting behaviour of players, officials, supporters.
 - d) Any other incidents.

Article 5.

Disciplinary Matters

Deaf Champions League's Disciplinary Regulations

- 5.01 The provisions of the DCL's Disciplinary Regulations applies for all disciplinary offences committed by clubs, officials, members or other individuals exercising a function at a match on behalf of an association or club, unless the present regulations stipulate otherwise.

- 5.02 Participating players agree to comply with the current FIFA *Futsal Laws of the Game*, competition's Rules and Regulations, and Disciplinary Regulations. They must notably:
- a) Respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence, and behave accordingly;
 - b) Refrain from any activities that endanger the integrity of the DCL competition or bring the sport of futsal into disrepute from the start to finish of the DCL competition.
- 5.03 The participating clubs will sign a document as agreement (acceptance) of the Rules and Regulations, and Disciplinary Regulations from DCL and must do it before the competition starts.

Control and Disciplinary Body

- 5.04 If a club wishes to make a protest/complaint to the Control and Disciplinary Body (e.g. venues, pitches, eligibility of players, interpretation of the Rules, equipment, match officials, etc.), the club must pay a fee of 30€ first with a written report of their protest/complaint. The Control and Disciplinary Body may order the fee to be forfeited (all or part of the fee).
- 5.05 The protest/complaint must be submitted within 2 hours after completion of their match.
- 5.06 No protest/complaint can be made against the match officials decisions regarding facts connected with play.
- 5.07 The Control and Disciplinary Body will constitute 3 impartial members. The Control and Disciplinary Body will review and decide on any issues/protests/complaints reported to them within 24 hours. The Control and Disciplinary Body will order action or sanctions as they see appropriate.
- 5.08 The Control and Disciplinary Body shall have the authority to deal with any issues/disputes not covered within the Rules and Regulations, and order action and/or sanctions as they see appropriate.
- 5.09 Any protest/complaints submitted which are found to be irresponsible or frivolous, the Control and Disciplinary Body may impose a fine as they see appropriate.
- 5.10 The Control and Disciplinary Body may discuss any matter with the DCL and OC before making any final decision.

Refusal to play and matches abandoned

- 5.11 When a club withdraws from the competition after paying the entry fee, but prior to the start of the DCL competition a fine of 100€ maybe imposed on the club if the withdrawal is considered extremely late (e.g. one week before the DCL competition). The club having entered a team will forfeit the entry fee. DCL have the discretion as to refunding the entry

fee on receipt of a written request from the club with appropriate reason(s) given as to why the club has withdrawn from the DCL competition.

5.12 Where a club refuses to play or withdraws from the competition when at DCL competition, the Control and Disciplinary Body will take a decision on the matter. The following fines are imposed in case of a refusal/withdrawal:

a)	Prior to the Group Stage	100€
b)	During the Group Stage or Play-offs	200€
c)	Prior to the Quarter-finals or Semi-finals	350€
d)	Prior to the Final	400€

5.13 If, through the fault of a club (except in cases of force majeure) a match cannot take place or cannot be played in full, the Control and Disciplinary Body shall decide on the action (e.g. extra disciplinary action, etc.).

The following result shall be awarded (as long as the match is not replayed);

Group Stage match - the offending club shall get 0 (nil) points and the opposing club awarded 3 points and a score of 5-0.

Knock-out Stage match - the offending club shall lose the match and the opposing club shall get a score of 5-0.

A fine of 100€ will be imposed on the offending club for any abandoned matches.

5.14 Exceptionally, the Control and Disciplinary Body can validate the result as it stood at the moment when the match was abandoned if the match result was to the detriment of the club responsible for the match being abandoned (e.g. award a score better than 5-0).

5.15 In all cases, the Control and Disciplinary Body can take further action if the circumstances so justify. This may include disqualifying the club from the competition, ordering the reimbursement to DCL/OC for any expenses incurred as a result of the offending club's actions and also compensation for any damages or losses suffered.

5.16 If a club is disqualified during the competition, the results of all their matches are declared null and void, and the points awarded forfeited.

5.17 Upon receipt of a justified and well-documented request from the opposing club, or clubs concerned, the DCL may help set an amount of compensation due for financial loss.

Yellow and Red cards

5.18 As a rule, a player who is sent off from the field of play (red card or two yellow cards) is suspended for the next match.

- 5.19 When a player gets two cautions (yellow cards) in **different matches** during the competition, that player is suspended for the next match. After the suspension the player starts a new cycle from zero.
- 5.20 The single cautions from the matches within the competition expire on completion of the Quarter-finals (or equivalent Play-off matches).
- 5.21 All cautions from the matches expire at the end of the competition and are not carried to the next competition. Only suspensions and dismissals in the last matches are carried to the next competition. Any disagreement in the interpretation of suspensions, etc., then the current FIFA *Disciplinary Code* shall be referred to.
- 5.22 Payment of the fine (sanction) for cards received by a player in **a match**:
- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| - Red card: | 20€ |
| - Yellow card: | 10€ |
| - Two yellow cards: | 15€ |

For very serious offences, the Control and Disciplinary Body may decide a higher fine (sanction).

- 5.23 The economic sanctions must be paid before the next match to DCL. If the club do not pay this economic sanction, the player cannot play in any match. The economic sanctions must be paid by cash in Euros (€). No other formats or currencies are accepted.
- 5.24 The Control and Disciplinary Body has the right to augment any punishment (higher fine and/or match suspension) for any players or club officials. For very serious offences the punishment can be extended for the rest of the competition.

Appeals Body

- 5.25 The Appeals Body constitutes 1 or 3 impartial members and deals with appeals lodged against decisions of the Control and Disciplinary Body or DCL.
- 5.26 Any appeals made by a club must be done on a written report and a fee of 50€ be paid to the Control and Disciplinary Body within 24 hours. The Appeals Body may order the fee to be forfeited (all or part of the fee).
- 5.27 The Appeals Body will review the appeal case as soon as appropriate. The member(s) on this Body cannot be the same as those on the Control and Disciplinary Body. The Appeals Body may discuss the matter with the OC and DCL before making any final decision. The Appeals Body decision is final.

Article 6.

Intellectual Property Rights

Ownership and Media

- 6.01 The Deaf Champions League (DCL) is the exclusive owner of all intellectual property rights of the competitions, including any current or future rights of DCL; names, logos, brands, medals and trophies. Any use of the aforementioned rights requires the prior written approval of DCL, and must comply with any conditions imposed by DCL.
- 6.02 All rights to the fixture lists, and match schedule, as well as any data and statistics in the DCL competitions, are the sole and exclusive property of DCL.
- 6.03 The DCL will decide if a media company/team can attend a DCL competition and only on payment as follows;
- Photographer - 50€ per person.
 - TV/Video Camera - 150€ per camera.
- The maximum number of people per media company/team attending a DCL competition shall be 4 people.
- 6.04 The DCL will withdraw the media company/team's access to the DCL competition if any material is broadcasted or the media company/team acts, in an inappropriate manner. DCL decision on this matter is final.

Article 7.

Closing Provisions

Interpretation

- 7.01 In the event of any disagreement in the interpretation between different languages, the English version of these DCL Rules and Regulations is the authoritative text.

Approval

- 7.02 These Rules and Regulations come into force on their approval by the DCL's Executive Committee and are to be applied by the OC for the next DCL competition.

Miscellaneous

- 7.03 For any matters not provided for in these Rules and Regulations, and any cases of force majeure, shall be dealt with by the DCL, whose decisions are final.

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