

Salient Features introduced in the Regulations on Club Ownership and Registration 2024 Edition

Article 2 Definitions

2) Ownership: this shall mean Natural or Legal Persons that own a football Club.

4) Season: This shall mean the period from 1st July to 30th June of the following year

5) Administration: This shall refer to the state when FUFA opts to take over the management of the club to ensure continuity in completing a competition or a period, or until new owners are found in the event that the current owners abandon the club or submit to FUFA that they have failed to financially sustain the club.

Article 4 Name of a club

1) FUFA shall not issue a Certificate of Club Ownership to Applicants for club names that are;

3 d) Misleading or deceptive about the club's nature, ownership, or affiliation

e) Infringing on trademarks or intellectual property rights

f) Excessively long or impractical for use in official documentation and media

Article 5

2) The new name of a club shall only be effective at the beginning of the subsequent season

3) Change of club name of a community club is prohibited

Article 6 Club logo and identity

1) FUFA shall not approve a club logo that contains pre-existing designed features of slogans.

2) The Logo shall have a meaningful significance to be approved by FUFA.

3) A club may be deregistered by FUFA upon satisfaction that it has not been active in association football for two (2) consecutive years. Thereafter, the club name may only be authorised for use by any other person at least two (2) years after deregistration.

- 4) Upon FUFA deregistration, communication to other statutory agencies shall be made in line with the National Sports Act 2023.
- 5) FUFA shall not approve a club logo that infringes on existing trademarks or intellectual property rights.
- 6) A club shall provide the rationale of a historical, cultural, geographical or any other significance for the elements included in their logo design.
- 7) Any proposed changes to an existing club logo must be submitted to FUFA for approval at least six months before the start of the season.
- 8) FUFA reserves the right to request modifications to a proposed logo to ensure compliance with its guidelines and standards.
- 9) A club may appeal FUFA's decision regarding logo approval or deregistration within 30 days of receiving the decision, through a formal appeal process established by FUFA.

Article 7 Ownership

- 2) Any natural or legal person that intends to own a football club shall conduct a fit and proper test. Any natural and legal person that fails the fit and proper test above shall not own a football club.
- 3) A fit and proper test may be failed for the following reasons:
 - a) Having power or influence over another football league club.
 - b) Holding significant interest in another Football League club.
 - c) Prohibited by law from being an owner.
 - d) Having been in a position of influence of two or more clubs that wound up
 - e) Having owned or controlled another club in 2 years before application to own another club
 - f) Under ban by FIFA, CAF or FUFA at the time of application
 - g) Having been proved guilty of involvement in matters considered as vices to football.

h) Any other reason that FUFA may find appropriate. FUFA may not indicate such reasons unless required by the arbitration process provided for by the National Sports Act 2023.

i) As under Article 10 subsection 2.

j) Failure to disclose relevant information

k) Provision of false, incomplete and misleading information during the application process.

l) Inability to demonstrate sufficient financial resources to sustainably support the club's operations and development.

4) If FUFA finds that the information relied on, to pass the Fit and Proper Test is incorrect, punitive measures inclusive but not limited to the deduction of points and withdrawal of the certificate of Club ownership Shall be applied

Article 8 Types of club ownership

1. FUFA shall ONLY register ownership of clubs of the following types;

a) Natural Person(s) Ownership

b) Private Ownership

c) Public Ownership

d) Private Institution Ownership

e) Government Institution Ownership

f) Trust

g) Community Club Ownership

2. Natural Person(s) Ownership

This is a club owned by a shareholding of natural person(s).

3. Private Ownership

This is a type of ownership with a shareholding of natural and/or legal persons, that is incorporated either as a company limited by shares or by guarantee, owning a football club. This model is specifically set up for football business purposes

4. Public Ownership

This is a type of ownership where by a public company owns a football club.

5. Private Institution Ownership

This is a type of ownership where a private institution that deals in other businesses in the community owns a football club. The Private institution shall own a company to specifically own the football club

6. Government Institutions Ownership

This is a type of ownership where a government parastatal or a government institution that is created by an act of parliament owns a football club. The government parastatal or government institution shall own a company to specifically own the football club

7. Trust

This is a type of ownership where the registered trustees as per the Trustees Act (Cap 164) own a football club

8. Community Club Ownership

This is a type of ownership where a membership (Community Club) as per the National Sports Act 2023 owns a football club

9. A company limited by shares or guarantee that applies to own a football club shall submit the following;

- a) Certified Articles and Memorandum of Associations
- b) Company forms 18 & 20
- c) Certificate of Incorporation
- d) Annual Returns
- e) Copy of passport/National ID of the shareholders
- f) Club Statutes indicating the independence of decision making of the Club they own in matters of FIFA, CAF and FUFA Statutes and Regulations
- g) A registered company resolution of the independence and absolute non-interference of the decisions of the Club they own in matters of FIFA, CAF and FUFA Statutes and Regulations

h) A registered company resolution by the owners to abide by the FIFA, CAF and FUFA Rules

10. A government parastatal or institution that owns a company that applies to own a football club shall submit the following;

a) registered resolution of the independence and absolute non-interference of the decisions of the Club in matters of FIFA, CAF and FUFA Statutes and Regulations

b) registered resolution that it shall abide by the FIFA, CAF and FUFA Rules

11. A Trust that applies to own a football club shall submit the following;

a) Trust Deed

b) Certificate of Registration from Ministry of Lands

c) National ID Cards of the Trustees

d) Club Statutes indicating the independence of decision making of the Club they own in matters of FIFA, CAF and FUFA Statutes and Regulations

e) A registered resolution of the independence and absolute non-interference of the decisions of the Club they own in matters of FIFA, CAF and FUFA Statutes and Regulations by the Board or decision-making authority at the institution

f) A registered resolution to abide by the FIFA, CAF and FUFA Rules by the Board or decision-making authority at the institution

12. A Community Club that applies to own a football club shall submit the following:

a) Legal Documents of Registration issued in accordance with the National Sports Act 2023

b) Copy of passport/National ID of the leadership

c) Club Statutes indicating the independence of decision making of the Club they own in matters of FIFA, CAF and FUFA Statutes and Regulations

d) A registered declaration of the independence and absolute non-interference of the decisions of the Club they own in matters of FIFA, CAF and FUFA Statutes and Regulations

e) A registered declaration by the owners to abide by the FIFA, CAF and FUFA Rules

13. A natural person or a group of natural persons that apply to own a football club shall each person submit the following:

- a) National ID card
- b) Bank Account
- c) Letter of good conduct
- d) Club Statutes indicating the independence of decision making of the Club they own in matters of FIFA, CAF and FUFA Statutes and Regulations
- e) registered declaration to abide by the FIFA, CAF and FUFA Rules.

14. A club owned by Natural Person(s) shall not play in the Professional league

15. An applicant for club ownership shall fill the following documents;

- a) Application for Club Registration Form
- b) Club Ownership and Registration Form (F201)
- c) Club Statutes for approval by FUFA
- d) Certificate of "Fit and Proper Test of each person or entity intending to own the club
- e) The List of Beneficial Owners of the Club
- f) FUFA Compliance declaration Form
- g) Club structure and management Form
- h) Proof of payment of Club registration fees

Article 9 FUFA Certificate of club ownership

2. The FUFA Certificate of Club Ownership shall have the following features;

- a) Certificate Number
- b) Type of Ownership
- c) Owners of the club
- d) Date of Issuance

Article 10 Withdraw of certificate of club ownership

1) The FUFA may withdraw the Certificate of Club Ownership for the following reasons;

- a) Failure to comply with FUFA Rules

- b) Failure to participate in Association Football for more than 2 consecutive football seasons
- c) If the club goes into administration and no new owners are found to take over the club

2) Any person who leads to the withdraw of the Certificate of Club Ownership shall be barred from owning another club for at least five (5) years after such withdrawal without prejudice to additional sanctions that competent FUFA bodies may impose

Article 11 Change of club ownership

3) A transfer from a community club ownership to other type of ownership is prohibited.

4) Unless settled at the point of Transfer, all liabilities inclusive of dues to players and employees at the club shall be considered transferred to the new owner

5) FUFA may set a condition before transfer of club ownership is authorized to include among others, settlement of part or all the outstanding liabilities.

7) Upon satisfaction of compliance with FUFA Rules, FUFA will;

a) amend the existing Certificate of Club Ownership by crossing the existing owners to include new owners

b) amend the existing the FUFA Register of Clubs by crossing the existing owners to include new owners.