



# **PHILIPPINE FOOTBALL FEDERATION**

## **CLUB LICENSING POLICY 2023 Edition**

### ***Club Licensing Policy***

The PFF Club Licensing Policy (referred to as “Policy”) shall be the action plan developed by the Club Licensing Unit (CLU) of the PFF for the continuous improvement of professional and amateur club football in the country.

The club licensing system in the Philippines shall be progressive and designed to assist local clubs to reach a level that will allow them to be sportingly competitive in local and international club competitions.

The Policy shall refer to the club licensing criteria as set out in the PFF Club Licensing Regulations, which was adopted by the PFF Board of Governors in 2017. The aforementioned regulations shall be assessed by the Club Licensing Unit annually, and any amendments to the regulations shall be presented to and adopted by the PFF Executive Committee, and then reviewed by AFC and published in the PFF website.

The Policy covers the club licensing system with regards to the participation of clubs in PFF and AFC Club Competitions.

License applicant clubs that will undergo the club licensing process are required to comply with the following five (5) criteria which are consistent with the set standards of AFC:

- Sporting
- Infrastructure
- Personnel and Administration
- Legal
- Financial

PFF shall assess the license applicants on the aforementioned criteria which are consistent with the minimum AFC standards where applicable and are specific to football in Philippines.

### ***Club Licensing Objectives***

The following objectives have been set for the promotion and advancement of the sporting standards of clubs in the Philippines:

1. To encourage the further education of coaches to the highest standard
2. To improve the youth education and youth development programmes at the club level through close cooperation between clubs and PFF
3. To ensure that stadium infrastructure is improved in cooperation with the owners of the infrastructure, in order to continuously update the facilities to be compliant with PFF and AFC Stadium Regulations
4. To encourage the professional administration of clubs and implement various development strategies to improve football administration and operations knowledge of club staff and management
5. To improve the economic performance and financial viability /sustainability of clubs



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6. To continuously monitor, assess and review the club licensing processes to ensure continued quality service delivery and a high level of stakeholder satisfaction.
7. To ensure proper benchmarking of clubs in cooperation with the clubs and AFC, as needed.

### ***Commitment to Club Licensing Scheme***

PFF acknowledges its responsibility towards license applicants and as licensor shall endeavor to provide the best possible service to its clubs including a commitment to:

- Continuously improve the effectiveness of the club licensing system and monitoring process
- Provide the necessary club licensing support to license applicants/licensees
- Communicate the various rules and regulations to all relevant stakeholders in a timely manner
- Behave in an ethical manner and respect the core values of confidentiality and independence

PFF shall ensure that all relevant information is available to all license applicant to enable them to apply for a PFF and/or AFC license.

The Policy is to be reviewed and updated (when necessary) on an annual basis and is communicated to all those involved in the club licensing system and license applicants/licensees. The licensing process shall be transparent, to enable the licensor to demonstrate to stakeholders that it adheres to the highest ethical standards necessary to maintain the credibility of the system.

All persons directly involved in the system are required to sign confidentiality agreements and also declare their independence upon appointment.

PFF shall ensure that each license applicant will be treated equally and equitably.

The PFF Club Licensing Policy has been developed in conformance with all applicable rules, regulations and statutes of FIFA, AFC, PFF and in accordance with Philippines laws.

For the PFF Executive Committee. 22 April 2022.

Atty. Edwin B. Gastanes  
General Secretary

Mariano V. Araneta, Jr.  
President