



**BASKETBALL<sup>TM</sup>  
CHAMPIONS  
LEAGUE**

# **Competition Regulations**

**Season 2023-24**

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## **I. GENERAL**

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 These Competition Regulations shall govern the Basketball Champions League 2023-24, along with any other rules, regulations, manuals, circulars and decisions referenced to herein or adopted by the Board of Directors of the Basketball Champions League S.A.
- 1.2 These Competition Regulations enter into force on 31 May 2023. They may be amended by the Organiser from time to time, in which case the changes will be communicated to the Clubs concerned without undue delay.
- 1.3 For administrative purposes, all communication arising from or in relation to the Basketball Champions League and these Competition Regulations shall be in English.
- 1.4 These Competition Regulations apply equally to both genders, and all references in this text to one gender (he, his etc.) shall be considered to apply also to the other gender (e.g. she, her etc.) and shall be read accordingly.

### **2. Definitions**

Admission Form	The form (or a renewal thereof) for a Club's participation in the BCL.
Article	An article of these Competition Regulations.
BCL	The European Men's Club competition called "Basketball Champions League". Unless otherwise stipulated herein, it shall mean the 2023-24 season's Qualification Rounds, Regular Season, Play-Ins, Round of 16, Play-Offs and Final Four.
BCL Club Manual	The manual issued by the Organiser, as it may be amended from time to time, setting forth requirements for the participation in and organisation of the BCL.
BCL Logo	The official logo of the BCL.
BCL Marks	The BCL Logo together with any other logo (e.g. the Final Four logo) or emblem used by the Organiser to identify the BCL or parts or activities thereof.
BCL Officials	The Technical Delegates, the Organiser Representatives, the Referees, the Referee Observers, the table officials, the Supervisory Doctor, the Single Judge, the Ad-hoc Judge and persons holding an office within the Organiser.
BCL Regulations	Any and all regulations, rules, circular letters, guidelines, manuals (including the BCL Club Manual) and decisions of the Organiser relating to the BCL.
BCL Sponsor(s)	Any entity entering into a sponsorship agreement with the Organiser concerning the commercial exploitation of some or all of the rights and opportunities relating to the BCL (e.g. BCL Presenting Sponsor, BCL Official Sponsor, BCL Technical Supplier etc.).
Calendar	The official calendar of the 2023-24 season, as set out in Annex 1 of these Competition Regulations.
Club(s)	Any and all clubs participating in the BCL.

Club Delegation Roster	The list of approved Players, coaches and accompanying team delegation members registered for the BCL (see Article 8) (hereinafter, “CDR”).
Club Official(s)	The Clubs’ players, coaches, assistant coaches and other accompanying team delegation members (including without limitation: manager, doctor, physiotherapist, statistician, interpreter, Club mascots etc.), any accredited members of a Club’s delegation, any member of the Club (directors, managers, staff), or any person linked (whether legally or de facto) with a Club.
European Club Competitions	The BCL and the FEC.
FEC	The European Men’s Club competition called “FIBA Europe Cup”. Unless otherwise stipulated, it shall mean the Qualification Rounds (if any), the Regular Season, the Play-Offs and the Finals of the 2023-24 season.
FEC Option	A Club’s decision to continue (or not) in the FEC if it does not qualify to the BCL Regular Season (see Article 4.3.c).
Final Four	The semi-finals and the finals of the BCL, as detailed under Article 19 of these Competition Regulations.
Home Grown Player(s)	Player(s) registered with the NF of the Club in question for at least three (3) seasons between the age of 12 and 20.
NF	A National Federation member of FIBA.
NL	A national league, whether organised as a separate legal entity or not, recognised by the respective NF(s).
Official Draw(s)	Any and all BCL official draw ceremonies.
Organiser	The legal entity Basketball Champions League S.A., a joint-stock corporation with legal seat and offices in Mies, Switzerland, owned by FIBA ClubCo LLC, by National Leagues (Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Spain, Turkey) and by ULEB.
Play-Offs	All games of the play-offs of the BCL, as detailed under Article 18 of these Competition Regulations.
Player(s)	Any and all players registered with a Club at any time between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024.
Qualification Rounds	All games of the qualification rounds of the BCL, as detailed under Article 16 of these Competition Regulations.
Regular Season	All games of the regular season of the BCL, as detailed under Article 17 of these Competition Regulations.
Signage	The digital (LED) and static communication and advertising spaces in the Venues as set forth in Annex 3 to these Competition Regulations.
Single Judge	A legally qualified person with experience in sports, appointed by the Organiser and entrusted with the task to adjudicate cases as provided for in the BCL Regulations.
Venue	The registered basketball hall and basketball facilities of each Club as well as any other basketball hall where a game of the BCL is organised with the approval of the Organiser.

## II. CLUBS

### 3. Participation

- 3.1 The Organiser shall determine the number of clubs per country that are entitled to participate in the BCL. In principle, this decision will be based on the ranking of NFs and Clubs (Article 5).
- 3.2 Subject to Article 3.3, the primary criterion for participation in the BCL are the sporting results of clubs in their domestic competitions, as decided by the Organiser. The Organiser grants a guaranteed place in the Regular Season to the title holder of the BCL, regardless of and with no reference to sporting results in the domestic league. For the avoidance of doubt, the title holder of the BCL is obliged to participate in the following season of the BCL, the failure or refusal of which is subject to Article 4.7.
- 3.3 The Organiser may grant access to the BCL through the attribution of up to four (4) invitations to the Regular Season or to the Qualification Rounds.
- 3.4 If one or more clubs do not exercise their right to participate in the BCL, the Organiser may decide to allocate the respective place(s) to other clubs of the same or other NF(s).
- 3.5 In order to participate in the BCL, a club shall:
- a) Have earned the right to participate in BCL through
    - i) winning the title of the BCL in the preceding season; or
    - ii) its sporting results in the domestic competitions (see Article 3.2); or
    - iii) an invitation (see Article 3.3);
  - b) Have the right to use a basketball hall which
    - i) meets the requirements of the Official Basketball Rules (including the rules on Basketball Equipment – Level 1, elite competitions) and of the BCL Regulations;
    - ii) meets the requirements for a TV-production in accordance with the Organiser's standards (8-camera-plan) and has a seating capacity of minimum 3,000 seats (unless otherwise decided by the Organiser in exceptional circumstances); and
    - iii) is clear of all non-basketball lines (see Official Rules of Basketball) or covered non-basketball lines. Clubs shall use in their basketball halls equipment for FIBA Level I competitions.
  - c) Comply with the requirements of the admission process set out in Article 4.

#### 4. Admission Process

- 4.1 The Organiser will send to the respective NF the documentation that is necessary for its clubs to be registered with the BCL (see Article 4.3 below). Additionally, the Organiser will provide the Clubs with access to its online platform in order for the Clubs to submit necessary information for the registration (see Article 4.4 below).
- 4.2 The Clubs and the NF shall ensure that the Admission Form, which becomes binding upon receipt by the Organiser, reaches the offices of the Organiser by email before midnight Geneva time on 23 June 2023. All other necessary documentation and information must reach the offices of the Organiser by email (for the documents under Article 4.3b, c and d, duly completed) or through the online platform (for the information under 4.4, fully submitted) before midnight Geneva time on 23 June 2023.
- 4.3 The Clubs will complete and sign the following documents:
- a) the Admission Form, which will include, without limitation:
    - i) The agreement to comply with the BCL Regulations;
    - ii) The agreement to license to the Organiser certain marketing, media and other intellectual property rights;
    - iii) An arbitration agreement stipulating that any dispute between the Organiser on the one hand and Clubs and/or Club Officials on the other will be submitted exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, and will be resolved definitively in accordance with the Code of Sports-related Arbitration through an expedited procedure. Recourse to ordinary courts shall be excluded;
  - b) the Club information form, including information regarding the availability to the visiting teams of at least one (1) 4-star hotel, within a twenty (20) km radius of the game venue;
  - c) (applicable only to Clubs participating in the Qualification Rounds) The FEC Option Form, i.e. the Club's signed and irrevocable declaration on whether (or not) it wishes to continue to the FEC if it does not qualify to the Regular Season of the BCL.
  - d) any other documents required by the Organiser.
- 4.4 In addition, the Clubs will complete and submit through BCL's online platform certain necessary information regarding their Club, their Venue (including the plan of the playing hall(s) with the distribution of advertising highlighted, the number of LED boards, the measurement of the advertising boards in metres etc.) and a digital copy of the Club's logo.
- 4.5 Clubs will not be required to pay a registration fee or a deposit at the beginning of the season. Each NF will be jointly liable with its Club(s) for any liability caused by or in connection with its Clubs' participation in (or withdrawal from) the BCL.
- 4.6 Non-admission
- The Organiser has the right to not admit to the BCL a club that would be entitled to participate in the BCL as per Article 3, if
- a) in the Organiser's reasonable opinion, the club does not fulfil or will not be able to fulfil during the season all requirements provided for in these Competition Regulations and the Club Manual; or
  - b) the club is not in good financial standing with the Organiser; or

- c) the club is subject to a ban from participating in international competitions.

#### 4.7 Withdrawal

If a Club that has signed an Admission Form (or any other document stating that it will participate in the BCL) or the title holder of the BCL who is automatically qualified to participate as per Article 3.2, withdraws from the BCL, it shall pay to the Organiser within seven (7) days from the latter's written notice an amount of liquidated damages calculated based on the time of withdrawal:

- a) from the date of receipt of the Admission Form, or in the case of the title holder following the final game of the preceding season, until the end of the final game of the Qualification Round, an amount equal to the Regular Season participation fees multiplied by five (see Article 26.1.d), unless otherwise agreed between the Club and the Organiser in writing;
- b) between the end of the final game of the Qualification Round and the end of the final game of Regular Season, an amount equal to Regular Season participation fees multiplied by ten (see Article 26.1.d), unless otherwise agreed between the Club and the Organiser in writing;
- c) between the end of the final game of the Regular Season and the end of the final game of the Play-Offs, an amount equal to Regular Season participation fees multiplied by fifteen (see Article 26.1.d);
- d) between the end of the final game of the Play-Offs and the end of the final game of the season, an amount equal to Regular Season participation fees multiplied by thirty (see Article 26.1.d).

#### 5. Ranking

- 5.1 The sporting results of the Clubs in BCL will be evaluated by the Organiser through a specially designed ranking system.
- 5.2 A Club ranking and a NF ranking will be established.
- 5.3 The rankings will be considered when determining
  - a) the number of places per NF in the BCL;
  - b) the allocation of Clubs to the Regular Season or the Qualification Rounds;
  - c) the seeding of Clubs in the Official Draws.

### **III. PLAYERS**

#### 6. Players' Eligibility

- 6.1 Each Club shall enter on the score-sheet:
  - a) in the case of twelve (12) or eleven (11) players, at least five (5) Home Grown Players;
  - b) in the case of ten (10) or fewer players, and subject to Article 7.1.1 of the BCL Disciplinary Code, at least four (4) Home Grown Players.
- 6.2 The Club and its NL and NF are jointly responsible for the eligibility of the Club's Players at all times and will bear the consequences of any infractions of the BCL Regulations or of the FIBA Internal Regulations governing Eligibility, the National Status, the International Transfer and the Age of Players.

## 7. Players' Registration

- 7.1 The registration of Players is subject to the following conditions:
- a) the signature of the official BCL entry form; and
  - b) the payment of the player's registration fee, as set forth in Article 29.1.
- 7.2 If a Club does not qualify for the BCL Regular Season and
- a) continues in the FEC, the registration documents will be used by FIBA Europe for the issuance of a "B" Licence (as per the applicable FIBA Internal Regulations), which shall be valid for the FEC without additional charge;
  - b) does not continue in the FEC, an "A" Licence for Foreign Players may be requested. This procedure is valid only as long as the Player continues to play with the Club.

## 8. Club Delegation Roster

- 8.1 The Club must register a minimum of twelve (12) Players by no later than 31 August 2023. The request for Players' registration, accompanied by all necessary individual documents and forms should be submitted to the Organiser by the NF of the Club, through the FIBA Management & Administration Platform (FIBA MAP).
- 8.2 The Club Delegation Roster is considered as being "Final":
- a) for the Clubs participating in the Qualification Rounds, on the last Wednesday before the start of the first Qualification Round;
  - b) for the Clubs participating in the Regular Season, including, for the avoidance of doubt, Clubs qualified through the Qualification Rounds, on the last Friday before the start of the Regular Season.
- 8.3 The Final Club Delegation Roster shall contain a minimum of twelve (12) Players and a maximum of sixteen (16) Players. The Final Club Delegation Roster shall contain a minimum of five (5) Home Grown Players during the entire BCL season.
- 8.4 The Organiser may require also the Club's coaches and other accompanying team delegation members to register within the same deadlines as Players. In such case, Article 7.1 (signature of the official BCL entry form) shall apply also to such persons.

## 9. Changes of Players

- 9.1 Any changes should be made by the Club through its NF. When submitting the request to the NF, the Club should send a copy to the Organiser.
- 9.2 For the Clubs participating in the Qualification Rounds, no change will be allowed during the Qualification Rounds.
- 9.2.1 Clubs qualified for the Regular Season through the Qualification Rounds may make an unlimited number of changes between the day following the end of the last Qualification Round and the last Friday before the start of the Regular Season.
- 9.3 For the Clubs participating in the Regular Season, up to three (3) Players of any given nationality can be changed on the Final Club Delegation Roster from the start of the Regular Season until the end of the Play-Ins.



- 9.4 For the Clubs qualified to the Round of 16, two (2) additional changes of Players of any given nationality will be allowed after the end of the Play-Ins, until the day before the start of the Quarter-Finals.
- 9.5 Any of the additions/replacements to the Final Club Delegation Roster must be finalised, i.e., the necessary documentation must have been received by the Organiser, by no later than the Monday before the first game of the additional/replaced Player, regardless if such game is to take place on Tuesday or Wednesday of the same week.
- 9.6 Players who have played for two (2) Clubs during the BCL Regular Season are ineligible to play for a third Club during the same season.
- 9.7 In case a game is postponed and re-scheduled, Clubs shall only use the players that were available on the CDR List on the date when the re-scheduled game was originally scheduled.

### **DEADLINES FOR REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS<sup>+</sup>**

<sup>+</sup> *Subject to modification by the Organiser*

Stage	Until 31.08	01.09 to 18.09	19.09 to 01.10	02.10 to 13.10	17.10 to 15.01	18.01 to 01.04	As of 02.04
<b>QR Clubs</b>	Minimum 12 players	Unlimited Changes	No Changes	Unlimited Changes	Up to 3 Changes*		
<b>RS &amp; PI Clubs</b>	Minimum 12 players	Unlimited Changes			Up to 3 Changes*		
<b>R16 Clubs</b>						2 Changes* (or up to 5 changes including RS)	
<b>QF Clubs</b>							No more changes

*\*By no later than the Monday before the first game of the additional/replacement Player*

#### 10. Protests regarding the eligibility of Players

- 10.1 Any Club may submit a protest concerning the eligibility of another Club's Player(s).
- 10.2 Such protest must be received by the Organiser at the latest on the following working day of the alleged occurrence.
- 10.3 A deposit of EUR 1,000 (or a written declaration authorising the Organiser to deduct such amount from the Club's financial benefits under these Competition Regulations) shall accompany the protest. If the deposit or proof thereof has not been received on the following working day of the occurrence, the protest shall be deemed withdrawn.

- 10.4 The Organiser may investigate the eligibility of Players ex officio at any time.
- 10.5 The Single Judge has exclusive competence to rule on violations of the rules applicable to the eligibility of Players, in accordance with these Competition Regulations.

#### **IV. OFFICIALS**

##### **11. General**

- 11.1 The Organiser will appoint BCL Officials for each game of the BCL. Annex 4 (Officiating) to these Competition Regulations shall apply.
- 11.2 A game form with the place and date of the game and name of the Technical Delegate (and, optionally, the Referees and the Referee Observer, if any) is sent by e-mail to both Clubs and to the Technical Delegate.
- 11.3 The NF of the appointed BCL Official(s) is responsible for
- a) conveying all details to the BCL Official(s);
  - b) confirming to the Organiser without delay and in writing the BCL Officials' availability;
  - c) providing all necessary assistance to ensure the BCL Officials' timely presence at the Venue.
- 11.4 If a BCL Official cannot accept his appointment for any reason, the NF must inform the Organiser without delay by e-mail or fax. The NF may suggest a possible replacement.
- 11.5 If a BCL Official appointed by the Organiser is prevented at the last moment from executing his duties at the game for reasons beyond his control, he may be replaced by another BCL Official from the country where the game will take place. In this case, the Technical Delegate shall immediately contact the Organiser to obtain its approval for the replacement.

##### **12. Appointments**

###### **12.1 Technical Delegate**

The Organiser will appoint one (1) Technical Delegate for each game. The Organiser will endeavour to appoint, particularly for the Regular Season, a Technical Delegate from the same region/country where the game is played.

###### **12.2 Supervisory Doctor**

The Organiser may appoint a Supervisory Doctor for certain games of the BCL in order to coordinate and monitor the doping control procedure.

###### **12.3 Referees**

The Organiser will appoint three (3) Referees for each game.

###### **12.3.1 Referee Observer**

The Organiser may appoint a Referee Observer for certain games of the BCL.

###### **12.4 The Organiser Representatives**

The Organiser may appoint one (1) or more Organiser Representatives for certain games of the BCL, who shall undertake specific supervising duties assigned to them by the Organiser.

## 12.5 Judges

12.5.1 The Organiser will appoint one or more Single Judge(s) for the BCL.

12.5.2 If deemed necessary, the Organiser will appoint an Ad-hoc Judge for the Final Four.

## 13. Duties

### 13.1 Duties of the Judges

13.1.1 The Single Judge and the Ad-hoc Judge shall perform their duties in accordance with the BCL Regulations.

### 13.2 Duties of the Technical Delegate

#### 13.2.1 The Technical Delegate shall

- a) ensure that the BCL games are played under regular conditions and in accordance with the BCL Regulations;
- b) inspect and approve all equipment to be used during the game;
- c) collaborate with the Referees in the exercise of their duties;
- d) supervise the work of the table officials and ensure a smooth running of the game;
- e) participate in all meetings organised for the preparation of the game.

The Organiser will provide the necessary guidelines to the Technical Delegates.

13.2.2 The Technical Delegate shall sit at the scorer's table directly between the scorer and the timekeeper.

13.2.3 The Technical Delegate is responsible for sending to the Organiser, through the BCL TD Platform no later than the midnight of the game day

- a) the Technical Delegate Game Report;
- b) the Game Lists of Players and Coaches (only in cases of protest or incident);
- c) if requested by the Organiser, the Referee Report (within two (2) days following the game).

13.2.4 The Technical Delegate must ensure that the hosting Club sends the Digital Scoresheet and statistics by e-mail to the Organiser within one (1) hour from the end of the game. The Technical Delegate must ensure that the hosting Club uploads the game video after the game and by no later than midnight on the game day.

13.2.5 All reports shall be written in English and shall contain details on the game according to the respective template. Should any serious incident occur (such as a protest against the result of the game, the disqualification of a Player, bad behaviour of the spectators, etc.) the Technical Delegate must send a detailed report describing the incident within one (1) hour from the end of the game by e-mail to [competition@championsleague.basketball](mailto:competition@championsleague.basketball) using the Organiser's official form.

13.2.6 Any matters which, in the Technical Delegate's opinion, could constitute a violation of the BCL Regulations, the Official Basketball Rules, the FIBA Internal Regulations governing Betting & Corruption, or of the general rules of behaviour and sportsmanship, must be included in detail in his report.

### 13.3 Duties of the Referees

13.3.1 The Referees shall conduct the game in accordance with the Official Basketball Rules and the official FIBA interpretations of these rules.

13.3.2 The Organiser will provide a pre-paid travel service to the appointed Referees, in accordance with the provisions of Annex 4 (Officiating).

13.3.3 The provisions of Annex 4 (Officiating) apply to the relation between Clubs and Referees / Technical Delegates / Referee Observers.

13.3.4 Besides the Club obligations described in Annex 4 (Officiating), no other involvement or interference (e.g. entertainment program) by a Club in the Referees', Technical Delegate's and Referee Observer's schedule and logistics is allowed.

### 13.4 Duties of the Referee Observers

13.4.1 The Referee Observer shall provide expert support to the Referees as well as monitor and evaluate the quality of officiating at a BCL game.

13.4.2 The hosting Club shall provide the Referee Observer with

- a) a seat in the arena with unhindered and full view on the basketball court during the game; and
- b) an accreditation pass to the referee locker rooms.

13.4.3 The Referee Observer is responsible for sending the BCL Officiating Evaluation Form to the Organiser by e-mail no later than the midnight of the game day, in accordance with Organiser's guidelines.

## **V. COMPETITION SYSTEM**

### 14. General Principles

14.1 The BCL shall be organised in accordance with the Calendar approved by the Organiser (Annex 1 to these Competition Regulations), as it may be amended from time to time and communicated to the Clubs by the Organiser.

14.2 The BCL competition system is determined by decision of the Organiser, based on a proposal of its Competitions Committee. For the avoidance of doubt, the Organiser shall have the right to modify the format of the BCL competition system or to propose any measures deemed necessary for the success of the competition, at any stage during season. Any such modifications or measures shall be communicated to Clubs by the Organiser without delay.

14.3 In principle, games of the Basketball Champions League are played on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. In exceptional cases, the Organiser may decide that such games will also be played on other days. The games of the Final Four will be played on Friday and Sunday (see Article 19.3).

14.4 Qualification Rounds - "Home and away" and point difference format, or, by the Organiser's decision, a Qualifiers Tournament, with a single-elimination game/s.

14.4.1 Subject to Article 14.4.4, the winner of the series shall be the Club that has scored at the end of the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) game the greater number of aggregate points over the two (2) games.

14.4.2 If the score is tied

- a) at the end of the first (1<sup>st</sup>) game, or
- b) at the end of the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) game but the aggregate score is not tied, no extra period shall be played.

- 14.4.3 If the aggregate score of the two (2) games is tied at the end of playing time of the fourth period of the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) game, this game shall continue with as many extra periods of five (5) minutes as is necessary to break the tie.
- 14.4.4 A Club that loses by forfeit or by default in the first (1<sup>st</sup>) or second (2<sup>nd</sup>) game shall lose the series.
- 14.5 Play-Ins and Play-Offs- “Best of three (3)” and home-court advantage
- 14.5.1 Subject to Article 14.5.4, the winner of the series shall be the Club that has won two (2) games in the BCL Play-Ins or BCL Play-Offs tie.
- 14.5.2 A Club with home-court advantage is the host of the first and potential third game in the Play-Ins and the Play-Offs series and will be
- a) in the Play-Ins, the second-placed Clubs in the Regular Season groups,
- b) in the Play-Offs, the first- -placed Clubs in the Round of 16 groups.
- 14.5.3 If the score after forty (40) minutes is tied in any games in the Play-Offs series, this game shall continue with as many extra periods of five (5) minutes as is necessary to break the tie.
- 14.5.4 A Club that loses any game by forfeit or by default in the Play-Ins and the Play-Offs shall lose the series.

## 15. Pre-season Official Draw and Game Dates

- 15.1 The pre-season Official Draw will take place at a time and place to be decided and announced by the Organiser. The Organiser will also announce guidelines for the conduct of the pre-season Official Regular Season Draw. The Regular Season Draw will pre-determine pairings in the Play-Ins and composition of groups in the Round of 16, as follows:

<b>Play-Ins</b>			
A2 vs B3	C2 vs D3	E2 vs F3	G2 vs H3
B2 vs A3	D2 vs C3	F2 vs E3	H2 vs G3

<b>Round of 16 - Composition of Groups</b>			
A1	B1	C1	D1
E1	F1	G1	H1
Winner C2 vs D3	Winner D2 vs C3	Winner B2 vs A3	Winner A2 vs B3
Winner G2 vs H3	Winner H2 vs G3	Winner E2 vs F3	Winner F2 vs E3

- 15.2 All Clubs taking part in the BCL shall have at least one (1) representative attending the pre-season Official Draw.
- 15.3 The exact dates of the Qualification Rounds games and the Regular Season games shall be confirmed by the Organiser and will, in principle, be announced by 31 July 2023. The negotiations with the broadcasting partners will have a significant bearing on the establishment of the calendar. In addition:
- a) Requests for a date change may be accepted only in exceptional cases and only if filed at least twenty (20) days before a game is scheduled.

- b) For the last “game day” in the Regular Season, the Organiser may decide that certain games (e.g. two or more games of the same group) shall be played on the same day and shall start, where feasible, at the same time.
- c) The Organiser may select one game in each Game Day, to be played on Monday. Such a Monday-game will be coordinated with the specific domestic league of the clubs and announced by 31 July 2023.

#### 16. Qualification Rounds

- 16.1 Following the results of the pre-season Official Draw, Clubs participating in the Qualification Rounds will face each other in elimination rounds played on a “home and away” and point difference format, or by the Organiser’s decision, a Qualifiers Tournament, with a single-elimination game/s.
- 16.2 Up to eight (8) Clubs can qualify for the Regular Season through the Qualification Rounds. All other Clubs of the Qualification Rounds will, depending on their decision as declared in the FEC Option Form, either qualify for the FIBA Europe Cup regular season or be eliminated.

#### 17. Regular Season, Play-Ins and Round of 16

- 17.1 A total of thirty-two (32) Clubs will participate in the Regular Season, of which a minimum of twenty-four (24) Clubs will have a direct place.
- 17.2 Regular Season
  - 17.2.1 The Regular Season will be composed of eight (8) groups, A to H, of four (4) Clubs each. During the pre-season Official Draw, the qualification places will be assigned to specific groups.
  - 17.2.2 Each Club will play the other Clubs in its own group “home and away” in a round-robin system over six (6) game days.
  - 17.2.3 The eight (8) group winners will qualify directly to the Round of 16.
  - 17.2.4 The eight (8) second-placed and the eight (8) third-placed teams from the Regular Season will qualify to the Play-Ins, where winners in the best of three (3) series will qualify for the Round of 16 stage.
  - 17.2.5 The remaining eight (8) last-placed teams in each group of the Regular Season will be eliminated.
- 17.3 Play-Ins
  - 17.3.1 Pairings for the Play-Ins will be pre-determined in the pre-season draw (art. 15.1).
  - 17.3.2 Clubs from the same group of the Regular Season cannot be drawn against each other in the Play-Ins and in the Round of 16.
  - 17.3.3 The second-placed teams from the Regular Season groups will play the first and potential third game at home.
- 17.4 Round of 16
  - 17.4.1 The Round of 16 will be composed of four (4) groups, I to L, of four (4) Clubs each.
  - 17.4.2 Each Club will play the other Clubs in its own group “home and away” in a round-robin system over six (6) game days.
- 17.5 Ranking

In determining the ranking of Clubs within the same group for the purposes of this Chapter V (Competition System), the Official Basketball Rules Chapter D (Classification of Teams) shall apply.

## 18. Play-Offs

18.1 The Play-Offs will comprise of the Quarter-Finals. The Play-Offs and the Final Four Official Draw will determine the pairings by applying a seeding system and the principles laid down in Articles 18.1.1 and 18.1.2.

### 18.1.1 Play-Offs Draw:

- a) The 1<sup>st</sup> place finishers in the Round of 16 will be drawn against 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishers (Games 1-4);
- b) Clubs from the same group of the Round of 16 cannot be drawn against each other in the Play-Offs;
- d) The 1<sup>st</sup> place finishers will play the first and potential third game at home.

The four (4) winning Clubs will qualify for the Final Four.

### 18.1.2 Final Four:

- a) The winners of Games 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be drawn against each other with no restrictions.

## 19. Final Four

19.1 The semi-finals will be played as a “direct elimination” format.

19.2 The winning Clubs of each semi-final will qualify for the final. The losing Clubs will play for the 3<sup>rd</sup> place game.

19.3 The four (4) games of the Final Four will be played on Friday (2 x semi-finals) and Sunday (final and 3<sup>rd</sup> place game).

19.4 All European NFs and the Clubs participating in the Quarter-Finals are entitled to submit a candidature to organise the Final Four.

19.5 The Organiser will select, in its sole discretion, the host of the Final Four.

19.6 The Final Four is considered as a tournament on its own with semi-final and classification stage. Therefore, the four (4) qualified Clubs can select any twelve (12) Players from the Club Delegation Roster list for either game of the Final Four.

19.7 The terms and conditions regarding the participation in the Final Four shall be returned duly signed by the participating Final Four Clubs no later than seven (7) days before the first game of the Final Four.

19.8 The terms and conditions regarding the organisation of the Final Four may be sent to the interested parties by the Organiser.

## **VI. GAME ORGANISATION**

### **20. Venue**

- 20.1 The basketball hall of the game shall be the one registered with the Organiser (see Articles 3.5.b and 4.4). The Organiser will use its best efforts to visit every Venue before the start of the BCL.
- 20.2 The home Club shall be responsible for granting the visiting Club two (2) practice sessions at the designated game Venue, which corresponds to the court where the Game will take place:
- a) One (1) practice session of ninety (90) minutes on the day before the game at the same time as the tip-off time of the game; and
  - b) One (1) practice session of sixty (60) minutes on the morning of the game, with a start not earlier than 09:00 AM no later than 11:00 AM.
- 20.2.1 For each practice session, the home Club shall provide the visiting Club with a minimum of twelve (12) official BCL basketballs, a fully equipped game court with game lights (as per the illuminance requirements in the BCL Club Manual) and fully equipped team locker room.
- 20.3 A game may take place in another basketball hall, in another city of the same country or even in another country
- a) Upon a Club's request and subject to the Organiser's approval in its sole discretion;
  - b) Upon the Organiser's decision, in its sole discretion (including, without limitation, reasonable concerns regarding the hosting Club's ability to guarantee adequate level of safety/security or compliance with the BCL Club Manual requirements for Venues; reasons constituting force majeure; etc.);
  - c) Upon decision of the Single Judge (see Article 3.7.1.k of the BCL Disciplinary Code).
- The Organiser's approval or decision under paragraphs a. and b. of this Article shall be final and binding upon the Clubs concerned.
- 20.4 If the game is to take place in a basketball hall other than the one registered with the Organiser, the hosting Club must send this information immediately by email to the visiting Club, after having received the approval (Article 20.3.a) or the decision (Article 20.3.b or c.) by the Organiser, as well as to the NFs of all parties involved, the Technical Delegate and the three (3) Referees.
- 20.5 If the game is to take place in a city other than that registered by the hosting Club, this Club must cover all expenses incurred by the Organiser, the visiting Club, the Game Officials or any of their contractual partners through this change. If additional travel is involved, this will be made by first-class train/bus or by air, at the expense of the hosting Club.

### **21. Game**

- 21.1 All games of the BCL will be played in accordance with the Official Basketball Rules in force at the time of the game. The Organiser has, with the agreement of FIBA, enacted the following specific rules on protests.
- 21.1.1 Protests
- The provisions of the Official Basketball Rules (Annex C – Protest Procedure) shall apply. Subject to Article 10 (protests regarding eligibility), the competent body to decide finally on any protests is the BCL Referee Committee.
- 21.2 Technical Equipment



21.2.1 The hosting Club shall ensure that all technical equipment conforms to the applicable rules and it is available at the Venue in good working order.

21.2.2 The hosting Club shall ensure that the following additional equipment, which shall be fully equipped, operational and compliant with the BCL Regulations, is available at the Venue before and during all BCL games:

- a) at least one (1) spare Backstop Unit;
- b) at least one (1) spare portable scoreboard which can operate and show at a minimum the game score and the game clock; and
- c) at least two (2) spare connected shot-clocks ready to be placed on the court end-lines. The game clock and the shot-clocks must be synchronised with relevant sound signalisation for the end of period and the possession.

21.3 Table Officials

- a) The table officials (scorer, assistant scorer, timekeeper, 24-second operator, statisticians) shall be appointed by the NF of the country where the game is to take place. The NF shall ensure that the table officials are qualified and impartial. The Organiser, either on its own initiative or after a motivated request by a Club, may request that certain individual(s) be excluded from such appointments. The hosting Club shall bear strict liability towards the Organiser for all actions and omissions of the table officials.
- b) The table officials must be dressed in a uniform (shirt, sweater, etc.) provided to the Clubs by the Organiser.

21.4 Digital Scoresheet

The use of the Official FIBA Digital Scoresheet is mandatory in all games of the BCL.

21.5 Players

21.5.1 The playing uniforms must conform to the Official Basketball Rules, to the provisions of Annex 2 (Advertising on Team Uniforms) and shall bear the BCL Logo or BCL composite logo as per the Organiser's instructions.

- a) The hosting Club's team shall wear its preferred uniform colour, for which must inform the Organiser by no later than the Regular Season Draw date. The Organiser will communicate the preferred home uniform colour of all teams by 1<sup>st</sup> of September.
- b) In case the preferred uniform for home games is of a light colour, the visiting Club's team shall wear a game uniform with dark colour. In case the preferred uniform for home games is of a dark colour, the visiting Club's team shall wear a game uniform with light colour.
- c) The Organiser will additionally inform about the Clubs' uniform colours for every game, together with the BCL Game Form, every Friday before the Game Day.
- d) Clarification on colours:

- Light colours: White, Yellow and Light Orange

- Dark colours: all other colours

The dominant uniform colour must cover a minimum of 75% of the overall uniform surface, including both the jersey and the shorts..

21.5.2 Undergarments permitted under the Official Basketball Rules could be white, black or of the dominant uniform colour, but in any event of the same colour for all players of the team during the

entire game. The Players' socks, wristbands, headbands or any other part of the player accessories or undergarments must be clean of any logo of the NL, the NF or of any other competition. Playing socks must be of the same solid colour for all players and each player must wear identical playing shoes on both feet.

21.5.3 When introduced at the start of a game, all Players of the same Club must be uniformly dressed (all with track suits, all without track suits, etc.).

21.5.4 Players may only wear the uniform of the Club.

21.5.5 Coaches and assistant coaches must be formally dressed during games. The Organiser may issue more detailed, binding instructions.

21.6 Medical Doctor

Each hosting Club is responsible for providing a registered medical doctor at each game.

The medical doctors must identify themselves to the visiting Club before the game and inform the Club representative where they can be easily located.

21.7 Doping Controls

21.7.1 The FIBA Internal Regulations governing Anti-Doping shall apply.

21.7.2 The Organiser will mandate, through FIBA, a third-party (National Anti-Doping Organisation, doping control service provider etc.) to carry out doping controls during games of the BCL. FIBA shall be the results management authority in relation to all doping controls at games of the BCL.

21.7.3 Unannounced doping controls may take place before, during and after any game of the BCL. The hosting Club is responsible for providing a doping control station which shall be equipped in accordance with the FIBA Internal Regulations governing Anti-Doping.

21.7.4 All costs for announced and unannounced doping controls are covered by the Organiser.

21.7.5 Clubs shall comply with the obligation to provide their team whereabouts or the whereabouts of individual Players, if so requested by FIBA.

21.8 Additional Personnel

Personnel must be available to dry wet spots which may occur on the court during the game. They should kneel or sit during the game so as not to obstruct the television cameras and/or referees.

21.9 Electronic Transmission of Game Information

21.9.1 For all games of the BCL, the official FIBA statistics software must be used. The Organiser will provide this software free of charge to all Clubs.

21.9.2 Statisticians responsible for collating game statistics shall be seated close to the court, preferably on the scorers' table. They shall have broadband internet connection available for transmission of live data.

a) Statisticians shall be connected via Skype with the BCL Stats Support service, starting no later than 60 minutes before the game tip-off and up until confirmation from the BCL Stats Support service after the end of the game;

b) Statisticians must have been trained and licensed by FIBA and/or by the NF of the hosting Club prior to performing their role in BCL games. The Organiser will provide Clubs with the list of licensed Statisticians in their respective countries.

21.9.3 During the game, the score and statistical data has to be sent to the Organiser's official website in

real time.

21.9.4 Immediately after the end of the game the results (DSS file with the final result) must be sent to the Organiser also via email to [competition@championsleague.basketball](mailto:competition@championsleague.basketball).

21.9.5 The hosting Club must upload the game video on the BCL Game Video Platform, by no later than midnight on the game day. The game video will be provided to the club after the game by the BCL Venue Manager.

21.10 Visiting Fans

21.10.1 Unless otherwise decided by the Organiser, the hosting Club shall reserve in all cases 5% of the total number of tickets for visiting Club spectators, as detailed in the BCL Club Manual. If the visiting Club does not confirm that it will use the 5% ticket allocation (or a lower percentage) in writing at the latest seven (7) days before the game in question (or within twenty-four (24) hours from the Organiser's notice with the exact date and time of the game, whichever comes last) the hosting Club will be free to use the above-mentioned 5% of the tickets at its discretion.

21.11 Game delay or interruption

If for any reason whatsoever (including without limitation: equipment malfunction, violent incidents etc) a game is delayed or interrupted, and unless the Official Basketball Rules or the present Competition Regulations provide otherwise, the Organiser shall have the right at its sole and entire discretion to issue any binding instructions it considers appropriate to Game Officials and participating Clubs.

22. Other Requirements

Further requirements for the organisation of BCL games will form part of the BCL Club Manual. In case of conflict or discrepancy, these Competition Regulations shall prevail.

## **VII. TV & MARKETING RIGHTS**

23. Media

The Organiser is the exclusive owner of any and all media rights to BCL (games, interviews etc.). Upon request, the Organiser may allow hosting clubs to commercialise the media rights to games of the Qualification Rounds.

24. Marketing

The Organiser and the Clubs shall share the marketing rights to the BCL games as per the provisions of Annex 3 (Inventory of BCL Sponsoring Rights) to these Competition Regulations and the terms of the Admission Form.

## **VIII. MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS**

25. General principles

25.1 Every game organised under the auspices of the Organiser must adhere to the same standards with regard to media operations and services.

25.2 The Clubs shall comply with the provisions of the BCL Club Manual with respect to Media Operations & Services.

25.3 Media Requirements

25.3.1 Participating Clubs and Club Delegation members shall respect all media requirements and deadlines

in effect for the Competition, as outlined in Competition-specific provisions contained in relevant guidelines and circulars related to the Competition.

- 25.3.2 All detailed Competition-specific media requirements shall be provided in due time to the Clubs by the Organiser and shall list all possible media activities and obligations that may apply prior to, during and after the Competition. Proposed update language from the BCL Communications department to clarify requirements and their mandatory nature.
- 25.3.3 The minimum media requirements framework for Clubs, applicable whenever Competition-specific requirements are not issued, shall include but is not limited to:
- a) Making players, head coach and any other accompanying Club Delegation members available for media-related purposes prior, during and after the Competition according to the activities organised. These activities may include:
    - i. Photo and video shootings
    - ii. Pre-game press conferences
    - iii. Flash and mixed-zone game day interviews
    - iv. Post-game press conferences
    - v. Practice session media availability
    - vi. Promotional/social media activation activities
    - vii. Wearing portable microphones
  - b) Respecting the game run-down provided and any possible broadcast or game production requirements;
  - c) Promoting the Competition on the Clubs' communication/digital channels and social media; and,
  - d) Providing up-to-date content and information, if requested, such as uniform headshot photographs of each player, coach and accompanying Clubs members.

## **IX. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

### **26. Financial Benefits for Clubs**

#### **26.1 The Organiser will**

- a) cover, directly or through its partners, all TV production costs for all BCL games of the Regular Season, Play-Offs and Final Four;
- b) cover, directly or through its partners, the costs for BCL brand and BCL sponsor floor stickers as well as for BCL Media backdrops, for all BCL games of the Regular Season, Play-Offs and Final Four;
- c) cover all officiating fees (see Article 27.1), international transportation expenses, accommodation and lodging expenses for the Referees, the Technical Delegates and the Referee Observers, for all BCL games of the Regular Season, Play-Offs and Final Four. The Organiser will dedicate the necessary staff and hire external service providers (e.g. travel agency) required to administer the related process; and
- d) make a payment of lump sum 40,000 EUR to all 32 participating Clubs on account of expenses incurred by Clubs for their participation in BCL Regular Season (see also Article 17.2); and
- e) make payments to winning Clubs for the subsequent stages of BCL (see also Articles 17.4, 18 and 19), in accordance with the Circular Letter to be notified to the Clubs by the conclusion of the Regular Season or by no later than December 31, 2023.

26.2 Clubs will be responsible for any and all taxes or deductions of any kind on these amounts, as applicable in their country (see also Article 30).

26.3 The above-mentioned payments are conditional upon the Club's full collaboration with the Organiser as regards payment modalities and procurement of necessary documentation, as applicable in the Organiser's country (e.g. forms for avoidance of double taxation etc.).

26.4 Any payments as Financial Benefits for Clubs that qualify to the Final Four Event in each BCL season, are conditional upon such Clubs' effective participation to the following season of the Competition, if such Clubs are eligible to participate to the following BCL season as per Article 3 of these Competition Regulations. This provision shall take precedence over any other rules or arrangements.

### **27. Officiating Fees and Expenses**

#### **27.1 Officiating Fees**

The officiating fees for the Referees, the Technical Delegates and the Referee Observers will be covered by the Organiser.

#### **27.2 Officiating Expenses**

- a) The Organiser shall cover the accommodation expenses, all international travel expenses and related administration.
- b) The Organiser shall cover all local transportation expenses of the Referees, the Technical Delegate and the Referee Observer.

Annex 4 (Officiating) to these Competition Regulations applies.

### **28. Other expenses**

- 28.1 Each hosting Club shall cover all game organisation expenses, unless otherwise provided in the BCL Regulations.
- 28.2 The visiting Club will cover its own accommodation, entry visas, international travel and local travel expenses in the city of the Venue.
- Two Clubs may agree to deviate from the provisions of this Article for their respective home games. In such case, the Clubs need to inform the Organiser about the terms of their agreement.

#### 29 Player Registration and Change Fees

- 29.1 For the registration of Players, the applicable fee is EUR 300 per Player.
- 29.2 For a permissible change to the Club Delegation Roster, the applicable fee is EUR 500 per Player.

#### 30. Terms of Payment to/by the Organiser and/or the entity designated by the Organiser

- 30.1 Each Club entitled to a payment under Article 26 above shall complete, sign and stamp Annex 6 (Payment Form) to these Competition Regulations and send it by email and courier to the Organiser within the deadline set by the Organiser.
- 30.2 Fees, dues, rights, fines or any other amounts invoiced must be paid to the Organiser and/or the entity designated by the Organiser in full, i.e. without any deductions (bank charges, etc.), upon receipt of invoice and only through wire transfer. Amounts due to the Organiser (player registration fees, fines, liquidated damages etc), whether emanating from the same or previous season, may be deducted from the payments to the Club. Alternatively, the Organiser may freely assign the respective claim to one of its shareholders. In accordance with the tax regulations in force in Switzerland, invoices may be subject to Swiss Value Added Tax (VAT).
- 30.3 Any payment by the Organiser will be made in accordance with the applicable Swiss tax regulations. Each individual or legal entity is responsible to declare any income in their respective country as applicable.
- 30.4 The hosting Club is responsible for customs clearance of shipments from the Organiser (e.g. balls, floor stickers). The hosting Club must also provide the Organiser with all the necessary information and/or documentation for the customs clearance. Any costs relating to missing information or incomplete information/documentation will be charged to the hosting Club.

### Annex 1

Calendar 2023-24																															
2023	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
June	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
July	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
August	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
September	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
October	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
November	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	
December	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
2024	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
January	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
February	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu		
March	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
April	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	
May	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
date	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## Annex 2 – Advertising on Team Uniforms

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The present Annex applies to all games of the BCL.
- 1.2 Advertising of the Club's sponsors is permitted in a maximum three (3) different advertising spaces of the playing uniform:
  - a) On the front of the playing shirts;
  - b) On the back of the playing shirts; and
  - c) On the right leg of the playing shorts.
- 1.3 A maximum of four (4) Club sponsorship messages are allowed on the playing uniform.
- 1.4 The same sponsor can appear a on maximum of two (2) out of the four (4) available messages' spaces.
- 1.5 Country flags, other regional, national, city of other type of flags must not appear on the team uniforms.
- 1.6 At least fifteen (15) days prior to the first game of the Qualification Rounds of the BCL, all Clubs must submit to the Organiser for approval a drawing/design of the complete uniform set that will be worn during the BCL. Designs can be sent by mail, email or fax. The Organiser may require a pre-production sample to be sent as well for final validation before the uniforms' production starts. The uniforms to be worn by the Club's team during the BCL shall match the submitted drawings or pre-production samples.
- 1.7 Once approved by the Organiser, no changes may be made to the team uniforms, including with regard to any advertising. If a Club wishes to make a change, a written request explaining the exceptional circumstances shall be submitted to the Organiser including a drawing/design of the complete uniform set which that given team wishes to wear during the remaining games of the BCL.
- 1.8 Areas of all applicable markings are measured by multiplying the maximum height by the maximum length of the advertising / manufacturer logo.

### 2. Playing Shirts

- 2.1 Playing shirts must conform to article 4.3 of the Official Basketball Rules.
- 2.2 The front of the playing shirt shall conform to the following provisions (see diagram below):
  - a) The manufacturer's trademark (logo) may appear once, provided that it occupies an area of maximum twenty (20) cm<sup>2</sup>. Alternatively, it may be placed above the Player's number (see d.i. below).
  - b) The BCL Logo or BCL composite logo (as provided to teams by the Organiser) must appear on the front left arm side of the playing shirt.



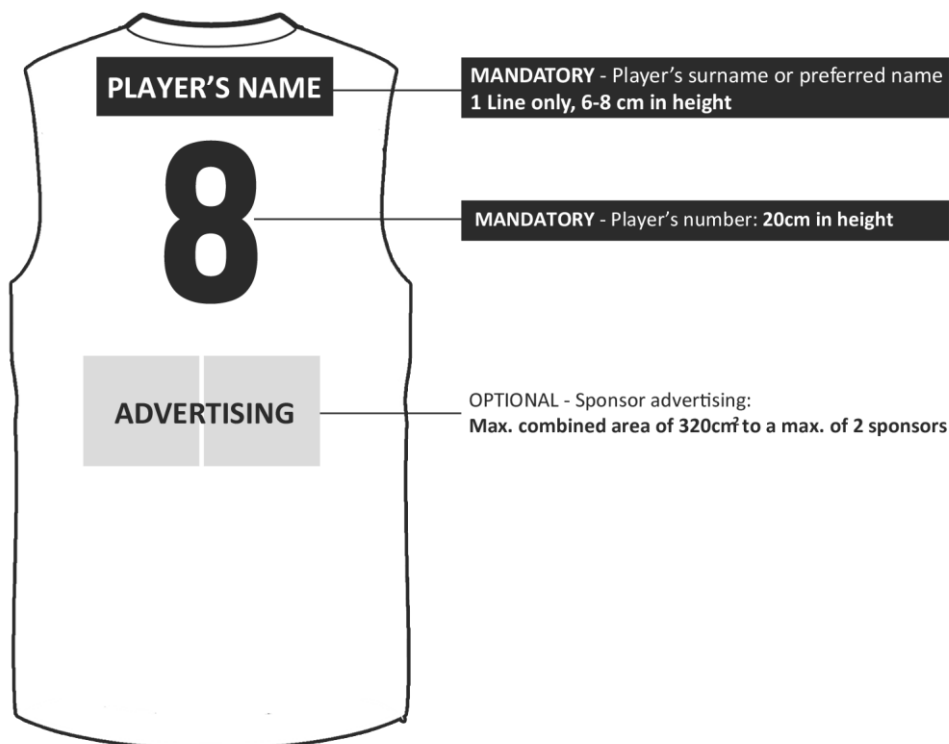
- c) The Player's number must appear and be clearly visible. It must have a height of minimum ten (10) cm and must be placed below the team's name or badge, at a distance of five (5) cm.

Any other markings on the front of the playing shirt must be placed in a manner and place which, in the Organiser's reasonable opinion, allows for the Player's number to appear clearly visible.

- d) The team's name or its commercial logo must appear on the front of the playing shirts as follows:
- i) Above the Player's number or in the place of the manufacturer's trademark (logo), if the latter is placed above the Player's number;
  - ii) For the team's name or its commercial logo, in case of written text, if the written text comprises one (1) line, the letters shall be of maximum eight (8) cm in height; if the written text comprises two (2) lines, the letters on each line shall be of maximum six (6) cm in height;
  - iii) The team's badge/symbol must occupy an area of maximum twenty (20) cm<sup>2</sup> and shall be placed on the right arm side above the manufacturer logo.
- e) Advertising of one (1) sponsor is permitted as follows:
- i) The written text or the sponsor's logo must occupy an area of maximum three hundred and twenty (320) cm<sup>2</sup>;
  - ii) The advertising must be placed below the Player's number, as per the diagram below.



- 2.3 The back of the playing shirt shall conform to the following provisions (see diagram below):
- The Player's name (surname or preferred name) must appear above the Player's number and shall comprise only one (1) line of text. The height of the writing must be of minimum six (6) cm and maximum eight (8) cm.
  - The Player's number must appear and be clearly visible; it shall have a height of minimum twenty (20) cm. Any other markings on the back of the playing shirt must be at a distance of minimum five (5) cm from the player's number.
  - Advertising is permitted provided that it occupies an area of maximum three hundred and twenty (320) cm<sup>2</sup>. The advertising space shall be used as follows:
    - Option 1: in one (1) block of maximum three hundred and twenty (320) cm<sup>2</sup> with one (1) sponsor's written text or logo;
    - Option 2: split into two (2) different sponsors' written text or logos, provided that the combined total size does not exceed three hundred and twenty (320) cm<sup>2</sup>;
    - Advertising(s) must be placed below the Player's number, as per the diagram below.



- d) No other marking is permitted on the back of the playing shirt.

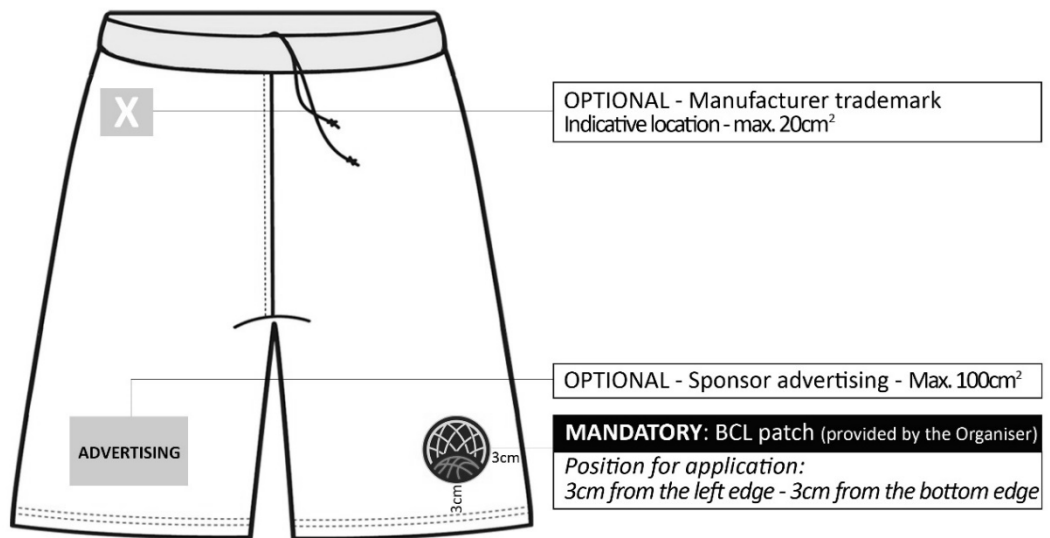
### 3. Playing Shorts

3.1 Playing Shorts must conform to article 4.3 of the Official Basketball Rules.

3.2 Playing Shorts shall conform to the following provisions (see diagram below):

- a) The manufacturer's trademark (logo) may appear once, provided that it occupies an area of maximum twenty (20) cm<sup>2</sup>. Ideally, if existing, the manufacturer's trademark shall appear on the right leg side. If it appears on the left leg side, the manufacturer's trademark must be at a distance of minimum twenty (20) cm from the BCL Logo.
- b) The BCL Logo or BCL composite logo (as provided to teams by the Organiser) must appear on the left leg (see d.i. below).
- c) Advertising of only one (1) sponsor is permitted on the front of the shorts, on the right leg (see diagram), provided that:
  - i) The sponsor's written text or logo occupies an area of maximum one hundred (100) cm<sup>2</sup>,
  - ii) The sponsor advertised may be one of those advertised on the playing shirt or differ from them,

- iii) No other markings may be placed in this area.
- d) The Player's number is not permitted on the shorts.



#### 4. Playing Socks

4.1 Playing Socks shall conform to the following provisions:

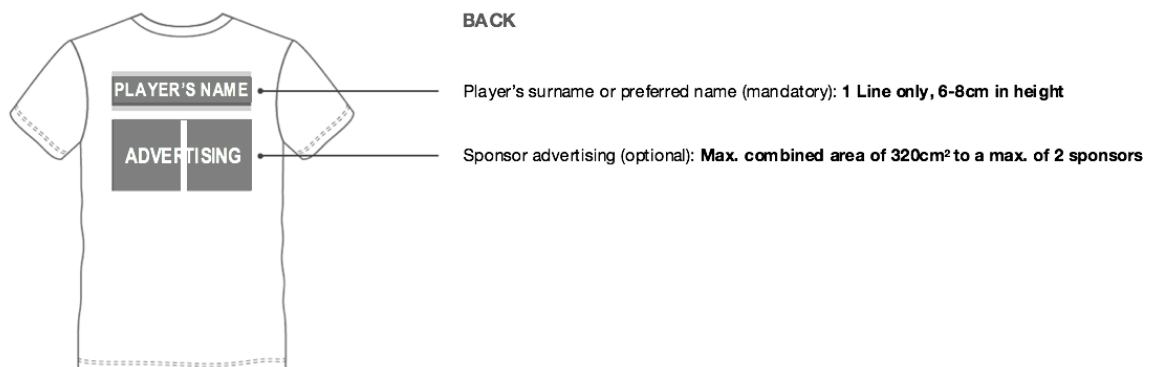
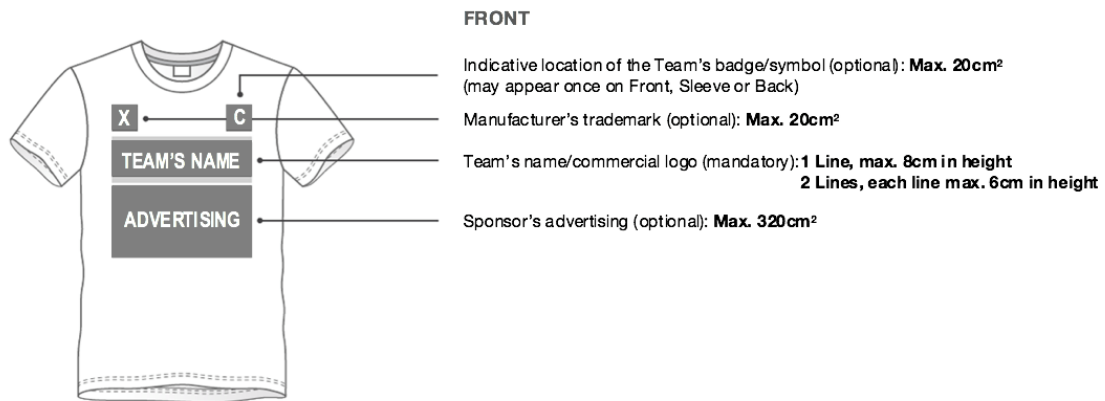
- a) The manufacturer's trademark (logo) may appear, provided that it occupies an area of maximum twenty (20) cm<sup>2</sup>;
- b) Advertising is prohibited.

#### 5. Warm-up Shirts

5.1 Warm-up shirts shall conform to the following provisions (see diagrams below):

- a) The manufacturer's trademark (logo) may appear once on the front of the warm-up shirts, whether as depicted in the diagram below or in the centre, provided that it occupies an area of maximum twenty (20) cm<sup>2</sup>.
- b) The team's name or its commercial logo must appear on the front of the warm-up shirts and be identical (same size and same place) to the team's name or its commercial logo on the front of the playing shirt (see article 2.2.d. above).
- c) An additional team's badge/symbol may appear once on the front, sleeves or back of the warm-up shirt and must occupy an area of maximum twenty (20) cm<sup>2</sup>;

- d) The Player's name (surname or preferred name) may appear on the back of the warm-up shirt, provided that it is identical (same size and same place) to the Player's name on the back of the playing shirt (see article 2.3.a. of this Annex).
- e) Advertising is permitted as follows:
- i) On the front of the warm-up shirts: the size of the advertising space must be identical to that of the playing shirts, but the sponsor may be different to that of the playing shirts. However, the advertising must be identical (same sponsor, logo, design) to that of the tracksuits;
  - ii) On the back of the warm-up shirts: the size of the advertising space must be identical to that of the playing shirts, but the sponsor(s) may be different to those of the playing shirts. However, the advertising must be identical (same sponsor(s), size, logo, design) to that of the tracksuits.



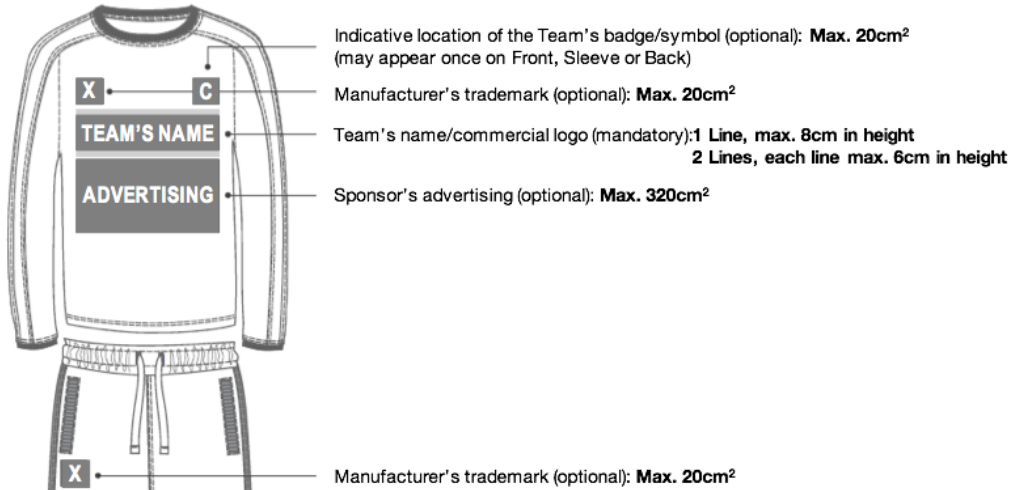
6. Tracksuits

6.1 Tracksuits shall conform to the following provisions (see diagrams below):

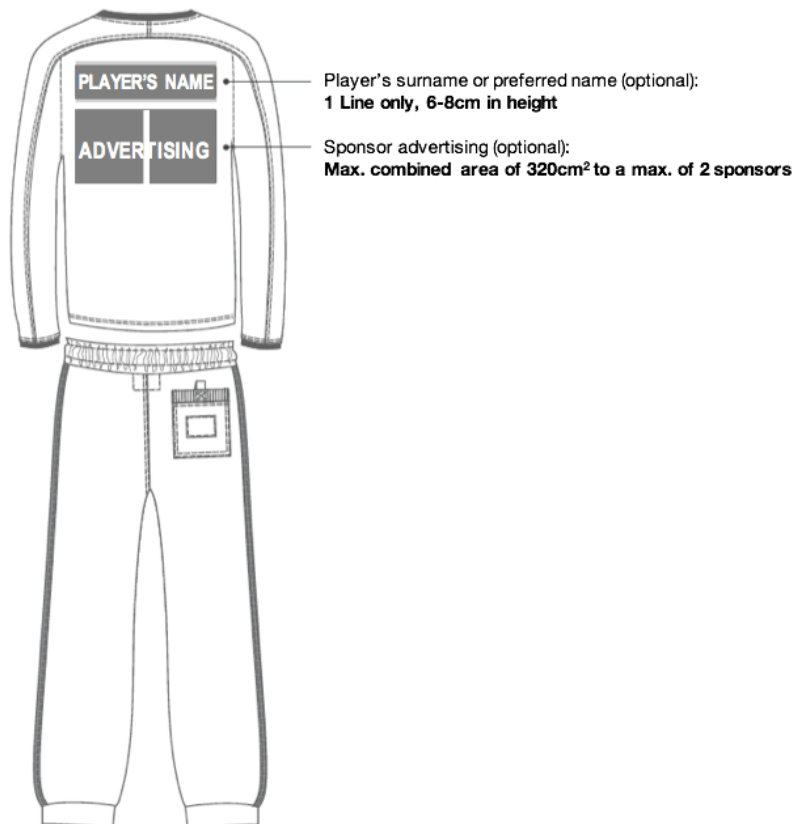
- a) The manufacturer's trademark (logo) may appear once on the tracksuit top, whether as depicted in the diagram below or in the centre, and once on trousers, provided that it occupies an area of maximum twenty (20) cm<sup>2</sup>;
- b) The team's name or its commercial logo must appear on the front of the tracksuits and be identical (same size and same place) to the team's name or its commercial logo on the front of the playing shirt (article 2.2.d. of this Annex).
- c) An additional team's badge/symbol may appear once on the front, sleeves or back of the tracksuit and must occupy an area of maximum twenty (20) cm<sup>2</sup>.
- d) The Player's name (surname or preferred name) may appear on the back of the tracksuit, provided that it is identical (same size and same place) to the Player's name on the back of the playing shirt (article 2.3.a. of this Annex).
- e) Advertising is permitted as follows:
  - i) On the front of the tracksuits: the size of the advertising space must be identical to that of the playing shirts (see article 2.2.f. of this Annex), but the sponsors may be different to that of the playing shirts. However, the advertising must be identical (same sponsor, logo, design) to that of the warm up shirts;
  - ii) On the back of the tracksuits: the size of the advertising space must be identical to that of the playing shirts, (see article 2.3.c. of this Annex), but the sponsor(s) may be different to those of the playing shirts. However, the advertising must be identical (same sponsor(s), size, logo, design) to that of the warm up shirts.

(article 6.1 continues on next page)

**FRONT**



**BACK**



7. Playing Shoes

7.1 Playing Shoes shall conform to the following provisions:

- a) The manufacturer's trademark (logo) may appear;
- b) Advertising is prohibited;
- c) The playing shoes can have any colour combination, but left and right shoe must match.

8. Accessories

8.1 All accessories must conform to article 4.4 of the Official Basketball Rules.

8.2 The following provisions shall apply to eyewear, sweatbands, knee and elbow pads:

- a) Advertising is prohibited;
- b) The manufacturer's trademark (logo) is permitted, provided that it occupies an area of maximum twelve (12) cm<sup>2</sup>.

8.3 Both advertising and the manufacturers' trademark (logo) are prohibited on all other accessories.

9. Other Provisions

9.1 Advertising on game uniforms, warm-up shirts and tracksuits must be identical for all Players of a team.

9.2 The two sets of uniform (home and away) must differ only in colour and shall bear the same markings, including identical advertising message(s) (size and sponsor).

9.3 The manufacturer's trademark (logo) on uniforms, warm-up shirts, tracksuits and team delegation uniforms (if applicable) must be the same.

9.4 All Club Officials who are entitled access to the team bench during the game must be dressed in a uniform manner (each member of a group – e.g. group of players, group of coaches, groups of physiotherapists, group of accompanying delegation members – shall be uniformly dressed) as follows:

- a) Wearing the same tracksuits of the team, as per article 6 of this Annex; or
- b) Wearing a team delegation uniform that shall conform to the following provisions:
  - i) Subject to Organiser's approval, advertising is permitted, provided that the sponsors' messages are identical as the team's uniforms.
  - ii) The manufacturer's trademark (logo) is permitted, provided that it occupies an area of maximum twenty (20) cm<sup>2</sup>;

or

- c) Wearing plain clothes free of any advertising or marks.



- 9.5 Advertising for hard alcohol, tobacco and any substances on the WADA Prohibited List as updated from time to time (or any product containing such a substance) is prohibited. For the avoidance of any doubt, advertising for a brand of beer or wine is permitted. The Organiser may further restrict advertising for certain products to protect basketball values (including pornography, war or arms related products, war or violent video games, and betting companies that in the Organiser's sole discretion raise integrity-related concerns). Advertising space may not be used to transmit any message that is not fit for a sports event, particularly messages that are of a political, ideological, religious, offensive or provocative nature (see also Disciplinary Code).
- 9.6 Unless expressly provided herein, any advertising (including manufacturers' trademarks (e.g. logo)) applied in any form or manner on the Player, either permanently or temporarily, on the skin (e.g. tattoos) or by wearing any accessories, is prohibited.
- 9.7 The Organiser may impose an administrative fine on a Club that fails to comply with the requirements of the present Annex.

## Annex 3 – Inventory of BCL Sponsoring Rights

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 For the purposes of this Annex, the marketing and sponsoring rights of the BCL, whether commercially exploited by the Clubs or centralised and commercialised in exclusivity by the Organiser, will be jointly referred to as the “Inventory”.
- 1.2 The Inventory shall be segmented as per the detailed marketing and sponsoring rights set forth in the BCL Club Manual and based on the following general principles:
- 1.2.1 All Clubs will follow the same rules, and the same Inventory per Club will be granted to the Organiser.
- 1.2.2 The Inventory granted to the Organiser shall be allocated as follows:
- a)

The Organiser will own and manage the whole Inventory in the Qualification Rounds. The Organiser may transfer, at its discretion, some rights to the hosts and the participating Clubs.
  - b) The allocation of sponsoring rights (i.e. LED, media backdrops, etc.) between the Organiser and Clubs will follow the same rules for the Regular Season, the Play-Ins, the Round of 16 and the Play-Offs and will follow, in principle, a 50% Clubs – 50% Organiser split.
  - c) For the Final Four games and the Final Four event itself, all sponsoring rights will be owned and commercialized exclusively by the Organiser, with the exception of the main sponsors and brands included in the playing uniform of the Clubs. In the event that a Club wishes to use a different playing uniform from the one used in the Regular Season and the Play-Offs (including among others: colours, number of sponsors, size of logos, brands of the sponsors, etc.), such Club shall request the written approval by the Organiser at least ten (10) days prior the first game day of the Final Four.
- 1.3 In relation to the Regular Season and Play-Offs:
- 1.3.1 BCL Sponsors will be the primary partners of the Clubs for all the BCL games, with Clubs reserving the right to contract with additional partners. The Clubs shall agree to a minimum level of rights for such Sponsors and shall undertake that the rights offered by Clubs to their additional partners do not compromise the BCL Sponsors’ rights, especially in the use of the allocated inventory and, if agreed, in the category exclusivity.
- 1.3.2 BCL Sponsors shall have the right to use the Clubs’ name and marks in advertising and promotional campaigns and other intellectual property rights as agreed by the Organiser.
- 1.3.3 The rights allocated to BCL Sponsors will be granted to BCL Sponsors in generic terms for all the concerned Venues, differentiating per competition phase, and in some cases (e.g. Hospitality) subject to availability in the given venue. Some given rights would generate additional costs to BCL Sponsors, in the event that such BCL Sponsors decided to activate them.

1.3.4 BCL Sponsor categories

- a) The Organiser will communicate to the Clubs, the sponsorship product categories reserved for the exclusive use by the BCL Sponsors. Such exclusivity will not include:
  - i. partners in the playing uniform of the Clubs,
  - ii. name or denomination of Clubs, and
  - iii. naming rights of the given hosting Venue
- b) At the time of publication of these Competition Regulations, the following product categories are exclusively reserved to the Organiser:
  - Ball, ball carriers and whistles
  - Manufacturer-branded athletic apparel and athletic footwear.
- c) The Organiser has the exclusive right to appoint BCL's Official Technical Suppliers with category exclusivity as the sole supplier for all games: Official Ball of BCL; Official Whistle of BCL etc.
- d) The Organiser reserves the right to supplement, during the course of the BCL season, the reserved sponsorship product categories (as per this article 1.3.4). Any new reserved product category added during the BCL season shall be communicated and discussed in good faith with the Clubs.

## **Annex 4 – Officiating**

### 1. Referee Committee

The Organiser will appoint a Referee Committee (“RC”) which shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining an appropriate system of officiating for BCL, under the supervision of the Organiser.

### 2. Referees, Technical Delegates and Referee Observers

#### 2.1 General principles

The Organiser, after consultation with the RC, will

- a) establish a list of FIBA-licensed referees considering the needs of the BCL;
- b) appoint Video Observers for the games of the BCL;
- c) nominate one (1) Technical Delegate (“TD”) and three (3) Referees (together with the TD, the “Officials”) for each game of the BCL.
- d) nominate at its discretion one (1) Referee Observer in certain games of the BCL.

#### 2.2 Non-availability

Officials shall inform the RC without delay about their non-availability and the reasons therefor. In the case of reasons that are considered “ordinary” (business, family travel, etc.) an advance notice of at least four (4) weeks is necessary. For reasons that are considered “extraordinary” (e.g. injury), officials must inform the RC as soon as the reason is known to them.

Referees may not officiate a game with an injury or other health problem.

#### 2.3 Confirmation

Nominations will be sent by email to the respective NFs of the Officials, in principle three (3) weeks before the game in question. The NFs must confirm the nomination or request that it be cancelled, by email within forty-eight (48) hours from receipt.

Nominations for games of the Play-Offs will be made as soon as the games are known.

#### 2.4 Cancellation

Reasons for the cancellation of a nomination can be an injury, other health problem, non-availability or bad performance of an Official.

In any event, the RC has the discretion to cancel nominations at any time without giving reasons, in particular for bad performance in a previous game.

## 2.5 Travel

### 2.5.1 Travel and Documents

The Organiser will provide the Officials with pre-paid travel tickets directly or via the travel agency authorised by the Organiser.

### 2.5.2 Planning the routing

Routing of the Officials will be planned in a way that minimises the total time of absence from work for the Officials and considering the following guidelines:

- Ensuring that the referees arrive rested before the game;
- Amount of the travel expenses;
- Arrival at Officials' accommodation at the latest by midnight before the game;
- Minimising logistics by travelling with own car - 0,35 EUR per km.

### 2.5.3 Local transportation

The Officials will be responsible for arranging their own local transportation for the home/airport/home itinerary.

The Officials are recommended to use public means of transportation (bus, train etc.) for the home/airport/home itinerary.

The Organiser will coordinate with the local Technical Delegate to arrange local transportation for the Officials, covering the airport/hotel/airport itineraries.

The hosting Club shall be responsible for providing the required local transportation for hotel/game venue/hotel itineraries of the Officials, as coordinated by the Organiser.

In all cases, the transportation schedule shall allow the Officials enough time for their individual game preparation.

### 2.5.4 Accommodation and meals

The Organiser will be responsible for selecting and covering the Officials' accommodation. Hotels should be situated in the city where the game takes place or immediate vicinity. The selected accommodation shall always include breakfast. It is recommended that Officials have all meals inside the hotel.

## 2.6 Locker rooms

Locker rooms for referees shall be equipped with showers and be lockable. Female and male referees shall have separate facilities.

The locker room shall be tidied up regularly. Refreshments and fruits shall be made available.

The hosting Club may provide towels for the Referees.

3. The Organiser will provide the Officials with the following standard forms, as applicable:

- BCL Nomination Form
- BCL Cancellation Form
- BCL Officials Expense Form
- BCL Video Observers' Regulations
- BCL Referees' Self-evaluation Form
- BCL Officiating Evaluation Form

4. FIBA Regulations

Any matters not covered herein are regulated by the applicable FIBA and FIBA Europe regulations. In case of discrepancy, the Organiser shall decide.

## Annex 5 – Disciplinary Code

### I. General

#### 1. Scope

- 1.1 The present Disciplinary Code (“Code”) is an integral part of the BCL Competition Regulations.
- 1.2 The Code applies to all BCL games and official activities, including without limitation the Official Draw(s).

#### 2. Persons subject to the Organiser’s jurisdiction

- 2.1 The following natural and legal persons are subject to the jurisdiction of the Organiser under the terms herein established:
  - a) Clubs
  - b) Club Officials
  - c) BCL Officials
  - d) Persons having used or in possession of a ticket or accreditation or invitation to BCL games.
- 2.2 The Organiser may provide information at its disposal regarding the behaviour of any person to an authority with jurisdiction over such person (e.g. FIBA, WADA, National Federations, National Leagues, NADOs, public authorities etc.).

#### 3. Governing Principles

- 3.1 Violations of the BCL Regulations or of the FIBA Internal Regulations may be sanctioned as provided herein. This applies also to acts amounting to attempted offences or to any type of complicity involving an offence or attempted offence.
- 3.2 Violations of the Official Basketball Rules (OBR) may be sanctioned as provided in such rules but may also constitute a disciplinary offence, sanctionable also under this Code.
- 3.3 Violations of the FIBA Internal Regulations governing Anti-Doping shall be sanctioned exclusively in accordance with said provisions.
- 3.4 Unless otherwise specified, offences are sanctionable regardless of whether they have been committed intentionally or negligently.
- 3.5 Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated no later than ten (10) years from the date the offence occurred or, in case of continuous offences, from the date the offence ended.

3.6 In addition to personal responsibility, Clubs are strictly liable, and may be sanctioned accordingly, for the conduct of Club Officials as well as of their supporters.

3.7 Disciplinary measures

3.7.1 The following disciplinary measures may be imposed on Clubs:

- a) warning;
- b) reprimand;
- c) fine
  - i) up to EUR 10,000 (“administrative fine”)
  - ii) up to EUR 300,000 (“disciplinary fine”);
- d) ban from selling tickets to supporters for away BCL games;
- e) annulment of the result of a BCL game;
- f) order that a BCL game be replayed;
- g) deduction of points (for the current and/or a future BCL season);
- h) order that a BCL game be forfeited;
- i) playing of a BCL game behind closed doors;
- j) full or partial venue closure;
- k) playing of a BCL game in a third-party venue, city or country;
- l) withholding of financial benefits from BCL;
- m) prohibition on registering new players in BCL;
- n) restriction on the number of Players that a Club may register for participation in BCL;
- o) disqualification from a BCL season in progress and/or exclusion from future BCL season(s);
- p) withdrawal of a title or award;
- q) withdrawal of a license or registration;
- r) service to the benefit of basketball community;



- s) reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Organiser or opposing Club as a direct result of the violation;
- t) a combination of the above measures.

3.7.2 The following disciplinary measures may be imposed on individuals:

- a) warning;
- b) reprimand;
- c) fine
  - i) up to EUR 10,000 (“administrative fine”)
  - ii) up to EUR 100,000 (“disciplinary fine”);
- d) suspension for a specified number of BCL games or for a specified period of time;
  - i) for the suspension to be recorded and considered fulfilled, during the period of suspension, the sanctioned individual must not be present on the court or spectators’ areas, including the spectators’ seats during the game day.
- e) suspension from carrying out a function for a specified number of BCL games or for a specified period of time;
  - i) for the suspension to be recorded and considered fulfilled, during the period of suspension, the sanctioned individual person must not be present on the court or spectators’ areas, including the spectators’ seats during the game day.
- f) ban on all BCL-related activities;
- g) withdrawal of a title or award;
- h) service to the benefit of basketball community;
- i) a combination of the above measures.

3.7.3 Disciplinary measures may be

- a) limited to a geographical area or to one or more specific categories of BCL games (e.g. Qualification Rounds, Play-Offs etc);
- b) suspended for a probationary period of no less than one (1) year and no longer than five (5) years. If the same or similar offence is committed during the probationary period, the competent BCL body will order that the original

disciplinary measure be enforced. This may be added to the disciplinary measure imposed for the new offence.

#### 3.7.4 Recidivism

The otherwise applicable disciplinary measure may be increased in case of a recurrence of the same or similar offence. Recurrence occurs if a disciplinary measure is imposed again within five (5) years of a previous offence of a similar nature.

#### 3.7.5 Provisional suspension

Pending resolution of a disciplinary matter, the competent BCL body may impose a provisional suspension or other provisional disciplinary measure.

#### 3.7.6 Adopting disciplinary measures imposed by third parties

- a) The Organiser may, either *ex officio* or at the request of an affected person, decide that a disciplinary measure taken by other organisations (e.g. FIBA, National Federations, National Leagues, NBA, other leagues etc.) is to be applied to BCL. In taking its decision, the Organiser shall consider whether the affected person's right to be heard has been respected and if the disciplinary measure complies with general principles of law and with the BCL Regulations.
- b) Disciplinary measures imposed under this Code are without prejudice to the disciplinary measures that a third party may impose under its own regulatory framework for the same offence.

### 4. Implementation of disciplinary measures

#### 4.1 Payment of fines

In the event of a fine, and unless otherwise stipulated in the decision, the applicable amount shall be paid within thirty (30) days from notification of the decision to the bank account of the Organiser without any deductions (e.g. bank charges). Delayed payment shall involve a 5% per annum interest and, at the Organiser's discretion, prohibition from participation until the entire amount has been paid.

#### 4.2 Disqualification of Players and coaches

Unless otherwise stipulated in the decision:

- a) Disqualification must be applied to the BCL game immediately following notification of the decision.
- b) If a coach or Player participates in a BCL game while he is suspended or disqualified, article 7.2 of this Code (forfeiture) shall apply and the sanction on the coach or Player may be doubled or restarted, as decided by the BCL body which imposed it.

#### 4.3 Suspension

4.3.1 Unless otherwise stipulated in the decision, a suspension starts from the day after receipt of the written notification of the sanction.

4.3.2 Unless otherwise stipulated in the decision, the Organiser may issue mandatory directions regarding the implementation of disciplinary measures (e.g. conduct of a BCL game behind closed doors) within the spirit and letter of the decision.

#### 4.4 BCL games to be played behind closed doors

4.4.1 Unless the competent BCL bodies decide otherwise, no one is allowed to attend a BCL game to be played behind closed doors, with the exception of:

- a. a maximum of 50 people holding category 1 tickets from the Host, and a maximum of 20 VIP guests for each Club, NF and/or NL;
- b. a maximum of 30 people per team delegation, including the players;
- c. accredited broadcast staff and media (journalists and photographers);
- d. police officers and security staff with specific tasks related to security at the game;
- e. Venue technicians and people carrying out functions related to the Venue infrastructure (lighting, signage, etc.) and persons carrying out functions related to the game (ball-kids, children involved in the pre-match ceremony as well as their chaperones);
- f. a maximum of 10 BCL representatives carrying out functions at the Game;
- g. people from BCL and BCL partners holding complimentary tickets;

#### 4.5 Forfeiture

4.5.1 In the event that the competent BCL body decides that a Club shall lose a BCL game by forfeit, and unless otherwise stipulated in the decision or in this Code, the following shall apply:

- a) If the BCL game is awarded to the Club that won the same BCL game (or, in case of stoppage, was leading the score at the time of stoppage) by more than twenty (20) points, then said score shall remain valid.
- b) In the event that paragraph (a) above does not apply, then the score shall be recorded as twenty to zero (20-0) against the Club that lost the BCL game by forfeit.
- c) In cases of point classification (e.g. Group Phase), the offending Club shall receive zero (0) points in the classification. In cases of home and away format with point difference (e.g. Qualification Rounds), Article 14.4.4 of the Competition

Regulations shall apply. In the case of “best of three (3) series” (e.g. Play-Offs), Article 14.5.4 of the Competition Regulations shall apply.

4.5.2 In case the forfeiture of the BCL game is a result of default, the following shall apply:

- a) If the BCL game is awarded to the Club that was at the time of stoppage in the lead, then the score when the BCL game was stopped shall remain valid.
- b) If the game is awarded to the Club that was at the time of stoppage not in the lead, then the score shall be recorded as two to zero (2-0) in that Club’s favour.
- c) In cases of point classification (e.g. Group Phase), the offending Club shall receive one (1) point in the classification. In cases of home and away format with point difference (e.g. Qualification Rounds), Article 14.4.4 of the Competition Regulations shall apply. In the case of the best of three (3) series (e.g. Play-Offs), Article 14.5.4 of the Competition Regulations shall apply.

4.6 Non-observance of disciplinary measures

Subject to article 4.2 of this Code, non-observance of disciplinary measures imposed hereunder constitutes a separate disciplinary offence and shall be subject to the sanctions provided under article 3 of this Code.

4.7 Disciplinary measures may not be implemented more than five (5) years from the date of the final decision.

4.8 Unless otherwise stipulated in the decision, disciplinary measures are carried over to the following BCL season(s), until they are fully served.

## II. Offences

### 5. Administrative Offences

- 5.1 The Organiser may impose a warning, a reprimand or an administrative fine on a person or a club that does not act in accordance with the Competition Regulations or the BCL Club Manual including, without limitation, for the following:
- 5.1.1 Failing to comply with the various deadlines set out in the BCL Regulations, such as late or incomplete submission of documents for the registration of Players.
- 5.1.2 Failing to send the final score, the score at the end of each period and any extra periods within fifteen (15) minutes from the end of the BCL game or to confirm the final score electronically through the FIBA Live Stats software.
- 5.1.3 Failing to send the photos within one (1) hour from the end of the BCL game.
- 5.1.4 Failing to provide data for live scores and statistics to the Organiser's official website.
- 5.1.5 Failing to follow the BCL Corporate Identity Guidelines (BCL Logo, Court Design, Print Material, Prizes, etc.).
- 5.1.6 Failing to participate in a press conference or on-court flash interview before, at half-time or after the end of a BCL game (incl. to provide an official statement in English), or any other media requirement set out in the BCL Regulations (see, in particular, Article 25.3 of the BCL Competition Regulations).
- 5.1.7 Entering the playing court for the start of the first or third period of a BCL game more than fifteen (15) minutes late (except under circumstances of force majeure).
- 5.1.8 Violation of the Official Basketball Rules on uniforms and/or other equipment.

### 6. Offences relating to the organisation of BCL games

- 6.1 Insufficient organisation of a BCL game by a hosting Club.
- 6.1.1 Venue does not comply with the requirements of the BCL Regulations.
- 6.1.2 Lack or malfunction of equipment essential to the organisation of the BCL game.
- 6.1.3 Equipment does not comply with the requirements of the Official Basketball Rules or BCL Regulations.
- 6.1.4 In the event that a violation of this Article 6.1 causes the BCL game:
- a) to be delayed or interrupted, it shall be considered an aggravating circumstance;

- b) to be stopped and for any reason whatsoever not resumed, it shall be considered a particularly aggravating circumstance, incurring as a minimum a monetary fine of EUR 100,000 and at least one (1) BCL game behind closed doors.

6.1.5 Articles 6.1.2, 6.1.3 and 6.1.4 of this Code also apply mutatis mutandis to replacement equipment.

6.1.6 Lack of adequate security measures in or around the venue.

6.1.7 Circumstances threatening or violating the safety of Club Officials or BCL Officials or spectators in or around the venue during or immediately before/after the BCL game.

6.1.8 Failure to comply with hosting Club obligations as per the BCL Club Manual.

6.2 Advertising

Use of advertising which does not comply with the requirements of the BCL Regulations.

6.3 Music during a BCL game

6.3.1 Musical instruments played by a live band during a BCL game in a place of the venue other than the permitted area. The permitted area is behind the end lines and on the side of the playing court opposite the scorer's table and the Club bench areas.

6.3.2 Music played over the public announcement system (electronically or by a live band).

6.3.3 The use of a microphone in a non-neutral way (e.g. to encourage the Club's team or incite the hosting Club's supporters).

## 7. Offences relating to the participation in BCL games

7.1 Team composition

7.1.1 Presenting less than ten (10) Players at the beginning of a BCL game shall be subjected to a disciplinary or administrative fine.

7.2 Use of unregistered Player(s) or violation of Article 6.1 (minimum number of Home Grown Players on the score sheet) shall result in forfeiture of the BCL game. In the event of a second offence, the Club shall be disqualified from the BCL and a disciplinary or administrative fine may additionally be imposed.

7.3 Unsportsmanlike behaviour of the public towards Club Officials, BCL Officials or third parties.

7.3.1 Inciting violence towards another Club's Officials or supporters, or BCL officials.

7.3.2 Throwing of objects which may or may not cause injury.

7.3.3 Lighting of fireworks or any other objects.

- 7.3.4 Otherwise endangering and/or threatening another Club's Officials or BCL Officials (e.g. threatening chants, using laser pens, etc.).
- 7.3.5 In the event that a violation of this article 7.3 causes the BCL game to be delayed or interrupted, it shall be considered an aggravating circumstance.
- 7.3.6 In the event that a violation of this article 7.3 causes the BCL game to be stopped and for any reason whatsoever not resumed, it shall be considered a particularly aggravating circumstance, incurring as a minimum the forfeiture of the BCL game by the Club which bore sole or higher responsibility for the violation and at least one (1) BCL game behind closed doors.
- 7.3.7 In the event that a violation of this article 7.3 causes an injury, it shall be considered a particularly aggravating circumstance, incurring as a minimum one (1) BCL game behind closed doors.
- 7.3.8 Entrance or intrusion of unauthorised persons into the playing court before, during or after a BCL game.
- 7.3.9 Aggression or attempted aggression on or off the playing court against another Club's Officials or supporters, or against BCL Officials.
- 7.3.10 In principle, responsibility for ensuring the proper behaviour of the public lies with the hosting Club. However, disciplinary measures may be imposed on the visiting Club in the event of unsportsmanlike behaviour by its supporters or Club Officials.
- 7.4 Unsportsmanlike behaviour by Club Officials
- 7.4.1 Any type of unsportsmanlike behaviour or behaviour that tarnishes the image of BCL and/or of basketball, including without limitation threatening, intimidating, insult, verbal or physical abuse, by Club Officials towards another Club's Officials or supporters, BCL Officials, the public or third parties (e.g. media representatives etc.).
- 7.4.2 Use of gestures, words, objects or any other means to transmit any message that is not fit for a sports event, particularly messages that are of a political, ideological, religious, offensive or provocative nature.
- 7.4.3 Abuse of equipment in the venue or other BCL-related facility (on-court equipment, dressing rooms, hotel, etc.).
- 7.4.4 Derogatory remarks against another Club's Officials or supporters, BCL Officials, the Organiser, FIBA, a NF, a NL, the public or third parties.
- 7.4.5 The substantive provisions of the FIBA Code of Ethics and of the FIBA Code of Conduct and Fair Play apply mutatis mutandis.
- 7.5 Betting and Corruption

The substantive provisions of the FIBA Internal Regulations governing Betting and Corruption apply mutatis mutandis.

### **III. Procedural Provisions**

#### **8. Competent BCL bodies**

- 8.1 The Organiser, acting through its CEO, is competent to impose a warning, a reprimand, or an administrative fine for Offences under the Code. The Organiser may delegate such authority to a Single Judge, in particular when a person is accused of having committed also multiple offences.
- 8.2 The Single Judge is competent to impose disciplinary measures in the first instance, subject to the provisions of article 8.3 of this Code.
- 8.3 The Single Judge's competence extends also to the Final Four, unless an Ad-hoc Judge is appointed by the Organiser, in which case the Ad-hoc Judge shall be exclusively competent to impose disciplinary measures during the Final Four. This competence is limited to the period of the Final Four and the disciplinary measures may not extend further than the end of the Final Four. For this reason, the Ad-hoc Judge must transmit to the Single Judge, within three (3) days from the end of the Final Four a detailed report of the facts and circumstances of the offence, together with all the official documents and evidence necessary for a complete evaluation.

#### **9. Disciplinary Procedure**

- 9.1 A sanction may not be imposed before the person concerned has had the opportunity to be heard and to present his case, except for urgent matters, warnings, reprimands, or administrative fines. The competent BCL body is free to decide whether the right to be heard may be exercised solely in writing (ordinary mail, facsimile, email), or also orally. It may authorise the use of telephone or video conference. Proceedings shall be conducted in English unless otherwise decided by the competent BCL body.
- 9.2 Evidence in disciplinary proceedings may include official reports and records, the examination of witnesses, the examination of parties, on-site inspections, expert opinions, television and video recordings, personal confessions, and other records and documents.
- 9.2.1 Facts contained in reports of BCL Officials are presumed to be accurate. Any party may prove their inaccuracy on a balance of probabilities, in which case the burden of proof shall revert to the Organiser.
- 9.3 Notices shall be accomplished directly to the person concerned. In case of Club Officials, notices may be accomplished by delivery of the notice to the respective Club.



- 9.4 Any person may provide to the Single Judge or the Ad-hoc Judge information relating to a possible violation of this Code by another person. Notices to the Single Judge or the Ad-hoc Judge may take place only through the Organiser. However, unless allowed by the competent BCL body as a witness or expert, no person other than the accused person may participate in disciplinary proceedings under this Code.
- 9.5 All persons under BCL's jurisdiction are obliged to comply with a summons to appear as a witness. Anyone failing to comply with a summons may be sanctioned in accordance with this Code. The competent BCL body may take due account or even draw adverse inference (the latter only if mentioned together with the summons) of any refusal to appear at a hearing and/or provide evidence on the part of a party, a party's representative or a witness.
- 9.6 Parties shall be responsible for and bear the expenses of their representatives, experts, witnesses, legal counsel, etc.
- 9.7 The competent BCL body shall evaluate the evidence, take into consideration the specific conditions under which the events occurred, the previous conduct of the person(s) concerned and generally all the circumstances to determine whether and to what extent a disciplinary measure is required.
- 9.8 Proceedings before the Organiser, the Single Judge and the Ad-hoc Judge shall be free of charge. However, if the competent BCL body decides that a hearing shall be organised under this Code, it may make the organisation of such hearing dependent upon one or more of the parties paying to the Organiser reasonable administrative costs.
- 9.9 The competent BCL body will issue a decision which shall include a summary of its findings. The decision will provide sufficient information or a reference to the provisions applicable to the appeal process, if any. Decisions on Administrative Offences may be delivered without reasons.
- 9.10 Decisions issued in accordance with this Code may be published on the BCL official website and/or the official BCL publications.
- 9.11 Members of the competent BCL bodies and the staff of the Organiser are not liable for any actions or failures to act in connection with disciplinary proceedings, except for cases of serious negligence or unlawful intent.

## 10. Appeals

- 10.1 Any decision made by the Single Judge, or the Ad-hoc Judge may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of sports-related arbitration. The time limit for appeal is three (3) days after the reception of the decision concerning the appeal.

- 10.1.1 Decisions involving warnings, reprimands or administrative fines are not subject to appeal before CAS.
- 10.1.2 Decisions on the interpretation or implementation of the Official Basketball Rules by BCL Officials are final and not subject to review by any other party, including the Organiser, the Single Judge, the Ad-hoc Judge or the CAS.
- 10.2 The appeal before CAS shall be decided by a Sole Arbitrator who will adjudicate the dispute in accordance with the BCL Regulations and the Code of Sport-Related Arbitration.
- 10.3 The CAS proceedings shall be conducted in English.
- 10.4 If requested by the Organiser, the CAS shall establish an expedited procedural calendar in order to ensure the smooth running of the BCL.
- 10.5 The decision of the CAS shall be final and binding.
- 10.6 No person subject to this Code shall institute any claim, arbitration, or litigation, or seek any other form of relief, provisional or not, in any other court or tribunal.

## Annex 6 - Venue rules

### 1. General Principles

- 1.1 For the purposes of these rules, a **Person** shall be defined as any person attending, or intending to attend, any BCL game or event ("**Event**"), regardless of whether such person holds a valid admission certificate in the form of an official ticket ("**Ticket**") or official accreditation ("**Accreditation**").
- 1.2 These rules apply as soon as a Person enters any premises used for an Event, including any possible security perimeter ("**Venue**"). They shall apply until such Person has left all Venues.
- 1.3 The full text of these rules shall be displayed at the entrance of a Venue and/or be available at Ticket or Accreditation offices.
- 1.4 If a Person does not comply in any way and for any reason with these rules, they may not be permitted to enter or may be evicted from a Venue by Event staff, security personnel and/or law enforcement representatives, at their sole discretion. Additionally, they may be subject to any applicable measures imposed by law enforcement representatives as per applicable laws.
- 1.5 Should a Person not be allowed to enter a Venue or be evicted from a Venue in relation to any non-compliance with these rules, they shall automatically lose any right to re-enter a Venue and shall have no right to reimbursement of any costs and expenses incurred in relation with the respective Event, including but not limited to Ticket costs.
- 1.6 Persons who are banned by public or sporting authorities from attending sporting events may be forbidden to purchase a Ticket or obtain an Accreditation or to enter a Venue.
- 1.7 Use of a Ticket or Accreditation by a minor is presumed to be made with the acceptance of these rules by his/her parents or guardians.

### 2. Basic terms and conditions

- 2.1 A Person must at all times:
  - a. Comply with these rules, which shall require compliance also with: the BCL Competition Regulations, the FIBA General Statutes and Internal Regulations, other rules and decisions issued by the Organiser and FIBA, as well as any other applicable rules (e.g. state law, etc.);
  - b. Follow any instruction given by law enforcement representatives, Event staff, security personnel, and/or other duly authorised persons;
  - c. Hold a Ticket or an Accreditation as well as an official personal document with a photo allowing identification ("**ID**");
  - d. Consent to controls, body searches and possible removal or confiscation of objects that are not allowed in a Venue by applicable laws or these rules.
- 2.2 A Person under the influence of alcohol, narcotics or any behaviour-modifying substance shall not be allowed to enter a Venue and may be evicted from a Venue.

2.3. A Person shall not be allowed to:

- a. Throw any objects or substances, or to set objects or substances on fire;
- b. Act aggressively or in any way that may jeopardise security, public health, public order, the uninterrupted continuation of the Event or the reputation of BCL and/or the Event's host ("**Host**");
- c. Make any declarations, statements or other actions that display a nationalistic, political, religious, ethnic or racist message or are in BCL reasonable decision not fit for a sporting competition ("**Prohibited Messages**");
- d. Act in any way that may trigger or incite violence, racism, religious disputes or xenophobia;
- e. Engage in any form of betting or activities related to betting in connection with the Event;
- f. Threaten others' lives and safety or act in an offensive manner;
- g. Climb on the seats or any other structure inside a Venue;
- h. During the games, enter or stay in an area other than that designated on such Person's Ticket or Accreditation, including any aisles or areas alongside the basketball court;
- i. Smoke, except in especially designated areas, if any;
- j. Record or transmit any sound, moving or still image or description or any result or statistics of the Event, including without limitation those of players, coaches and officials, other than for private use, unless officially authorised by the Organiser and holding appropriate Accreditation to the Event;
- k. Be involved in any way in the dissemination of any sound, moving or still image, description, result or statistic of the Event, in whole or in part, for any sort of public access, irrespective of the transmission form, whether over the internet, radio, television, mobile phone, data accessory or any other current and/or future media (now known or hereinafter invented and/or devised);
- l. Engage in any form of activity which may result in unauthorised commercial activity inside a Venue, including but not limited to unauthorised association with the official Event marks, BCL, the Organiser and its commercial partners;
- m. Use, wear, possess or hold promotional or commercial objects and materials, or offering to sell, or possess with the intent to sell, drinks, food, souvenirs, clothes, or other promotional and/or commercial items within a Venue. All such items may be removed or confiscated by the Organiser or the Host;
- n. Provide any type of commercial service or undertake any commercial promotions in a Venue.

2.4 Subject to applicable laws, by entering a Venue a Person is deemed to:

- a. Agree that the Organiser or third parties authorised by the Organiser may use free of charge or any compensation the Person's voice, image, photograph and likeness by means of live or recorded video display, broadcast, streaming or other transmission or recording, photographs or any other current and/or future media technologies (now known or hereinafter invented and/or devised) in a commercial or non-commercial manner, for the maximum duration permitted by law, in any format and through any type of media but

excluding the use which implies individual endorsement by the Person of any commercial entity, product or service;

- b. Waive all rights and actions seeking to oppose the exploitation described in paragraph 2.4.a above. The Organiser (and third parties authorised by the Organiser with respect to the use of such media) shall be bound by, and comply with, all applicable laws with respect to any use they may make of such media.

### 3. Prohibited and restricted items

3.1 The following items are prohibited and may not be allowed into a Venue at the sole discretion of the Organiser, the Host, Event staff, security personnel, law enforcement representatives or other authorised persons:

#### a. Dangerous items

- i. Poles (i.e. flag poles) of hard material and/or longer than 1 meter;
- ii. Glass bottles larger than 100ml (excluding medication contained in glass bottles);
- iii. All types of knives and bladed items, including pocketknives and knives carried as part of cultural dress;
- iv. Weapons or implements such as bayonets, flick knives, extendable batons, sharpened combs, modified belt buckles and loose blades modified into weapons;
- v. Items that resemble dangerous items such as replica guns or hoax explosive devices;
- vi. Firearms and ammunition (including replicas, component parts or any device suspected to be a firearm);
- vii. Personal protection sprays such as CS or pepper sprays;
- viii. Fireworks, explosives, flares and smoke canisters;
- ix. Balls, rackets, frisbees or any other objects which may be used as projectiles;
- x. Large “golf-style” umbrellas;
- xi. Hazardous and toxic materials;
- xii. Any other item reasonably considered as dangerous.

#### b. Liquids

- i. Alcoholic drinks. Restrictions may apply to soft drinks and water for commercial (e.g. certain categories may not be allowed if commercialised exclusively in the Venue) or security (e.g. bottle cap may be removed from all bottled liquids) reasons;
- ii. Liquids, aerosols and gels in quantities greater than 100ml.

#### c. Photographic and broadcast equipment

Any video/broadcast or other image capturing equipment including without limitation reflex cameras, tripods and monopods

#### d. Other items

- i. More than one soft-sided bag of max. 25 litre capacity (bag must be able to fit under the seat);
- ii. Laser pointers and strobe lights;

- iii. Noisemakers including without limitation hunting horns, air horns, klaxons, vuvuzelas and whistles;
  - iv. Oversized hats;
  - v. Any object or clothing bearing Prohibited Messages or disproportionate commercial identification or capable of being used for ambush marketing activity;
  - vi. Tents, boards, signage, spray paint or any other item which could be used for in-Venue demonstration or for damaging property;
  - vii. Walkie-talkies, phone jammers and radio scanners;
  - viii. Personal/private wireless access points and 3G/4G/5G hubs (smart devices such as Android phones, iPhones and tablets are permitted inside a Venue, but must not be used as wireless access points to connect multiple devices);
  - ix. Bicycles, folding bikes, roller-skates and skateboards;
  - x. Animals, including without limitation pets (only official service animals are permitted);
  - xi. Controlled drugs, including substances which look like controlled drugs;
  - xii. Any other item which may disrupt competition, obstruct the view of other spectators or create a safety hazard, including without limitation any type of paper rolls (toilet paper, cash register rolls, confetti etc.).
- 3.2 Persons carrying any of the items above will not be allowed to enter a Venue and, subject to applicable laws, may be required to be transferred to law enforcement facilities (e.g. police station).
- 3.3 Any usage of professional photographic or broadcast equipment is prohibited without the prior written authorisation of the Organiser.
- 3.4 In addition to the items listed under 3.1 above, specific requirements apply to the following items, which may be allowed inside a Venue only after approval of the Venue security manager or other authorised personnel:
- a. Flags and banners
    - i. A Person in possession of a flag or a banner shall be required to prove that such flag or banner
      - does not display a Prohibited Message; and,
      - (for flags and banners larger than 2m<sup>2</sup>) the material it is made of, is not flammable.
- If allowed, the Person in possession shall
- agree to usage terms with the security personnel;
  - bear full responsibility for the use of the flag or banner;
  - prove his/her identity with a valid passport or ID; and,
  - (if required) undersign a specific legal form.
- ii. Flags, other than the official flags of the countries of the teams participating in the game or in the Event, should not be allowed in a Venue at the sole discretion of the Event staff, security personnel and/or law enforcement representatives.

b. Drums

In case of drums, the Person in possession shall prove that the drums

- are not closed (one end must be open);
- are not made of a flammable material; and,
- do not display a Prohibited Message.

If allowed, the Person in Possession shall

- bear full responsibility for the use of the drums;
- prove his/her identity with a valid passport or ID; and,
- (if required) undersign a specific legal form.

c. Food

The Organiser and the Host reserve the right to not allow food in a Venue.

- 3.5 If available at a Venue, a cloakroom/deposit may be used to temporarily hold items not allowed into the Venue, provided the security personnel agrees and the items do not create any safety hazard.

4. Liability

- 4.1 In the event of an emergency, all persons in the Venue shall remain calm and follow the rules and instructions given by Event staff, security personnel and/or any law enforcement representatives. BCL and the Host shall bear no responsibility for consequences to lives, health and property to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law and particularly in case of non-compliance with the instructions provided.
- 4.2 Should a Person violate the fire safety rules (including those caused by smoking in a Venue) and cause the fire alarm system to set off, the Organiser and the Host shall bear no responsibility for any consequences due to such emergency evacuation, which shall be exclusively attributed to such Person.
- 4.3 The Organiser and the Host shall bear no responsibilities for any harm to life, health and property of a person within the Venue to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law and particularly in case of a violation of these rules.

5. Accreditations

In addition to the above provisions, the following apply to a Person who has received or is using an Accreditation ("**Holder**"), regardless of if they are the same person as featured on the Accreditation:

- 5.1 An Accreditation is for personal use only and cannot be transferred to others. It must be worn visibly at all times.
- 5.2 The Holder is granted access rights only to the zones indicated on the Accreditation and shall use the designated entrances accordingly.

- 5.3 An Accreditation does not give the Holder the right to a seat in a Venue, even if the Holder has access to the respective zone. A valid Ticket is always necessary, unless authorised by the Organiser and/or the Host.
  - 5.4 Any misuse of an Accreditation (including, without limitation, unauthorised entrance into restricted zones or non-compliance with these rules) or engaging for any reason whatsoever in a dispute or argument with security and/or Event staff may result in the immediate withdrawal of the Accreditation by the Organiser or the Host.
  - 5.5 An Accreditation shall remain the property of BCL and can be withdrawn at any time, with immediate effect, at BCL's sole discretion.
  - 5.6 If an Accreditation is lost, stolen or for any other reason not in the Holder's possession, the Holder shall immediately inform BCL and/or the Host.
  - 5.7 The Holder agrees that the Organiser or the Host collect information about him/her and that this information is processed, used and stored by the Organiser or a third party, for the purpose of organising the Event, other BCL events, and for the promotion of basketball.
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6. Applicable law – jurisdiction
    - 6.1 The relationship, if any, between a Person on the one hand and the Organiser, the Host and their respective representatives on the other hand, shall be regulated exclusively by Swiss law, without regard to its conflict of law rules.
    - 6.2 Any and all disputes arising from or in connection with these rules or generally with a Person's attendance of an Event, shall be submitted exclusively to the courts of Lausanne, Switzerland.



## Annex 7 – Payment Form

In accordance with the Admission Form and Art. 26 of the BCL Competition Regulations:

<u>Name and address of the Club</u>	
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### Bank account details

<u>Beneficiary name</u>	
<u>IBAN Number</u>	
<u>BIC Code (Swift)</u>	
<u>Clearing</u>	

### Details of the receiving Bank

<u>Name of the bank</u>	
<u>Agency, if applicable</u>	
<u>City &amp; Postal Code (ZIP code)</u>	
<u>Country</u>	

On behalf of the above-mentioned club, I confirm that the information contained herein is correct.

Date: .....

Full name of signatory: .....

Signature and Club stamp:

\_\_\_\_\_ 