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CONTROL OF VIOLENCE IN SPORTS GROUNDS (STEWARDS) REGULATIONS 2014

The Administrator makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers in sections 4B(f) and 55 of the Control of Violence in Sports Grounds Ordinance 2009(a)

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Control of Violence in Sports Grounds (Stewards) Regulations 2014 and come into force on 10 January 2014.

Interpretation

2. (1) In these Regulations—

“Committee” means the committee for the regulation of stewards established under the corresponding Republican law.

“principal Ordinance” means the Control of Violence in Sports Grounds Ordinance 2009;

“supervising steward” means the steward appointed under regulation 5(1)(b).

(2) In these Regulations, a reference to—

- (a) Chief Constable is to be construed as including a reference to the police officer in command of policing an event;
- (b) security officer is to be construed as the security officer of the designated sports ground at which the event takes place.

Exercise of functions by the Committee

3. (1) The Committee may exercise its functions under the corresponding Republican law in the Areas.

(2) Where the Committee requires access to, or information about, a sports ground or a sports club in connection with the exercise of its functions, the manager of the sports ground or the sports club (as the case may be) must ensure the Committee has the required access or information.

(3) A decision of the Committee in relation to any person or matter it regulates under the corresponding Republican law is binding on the person and determinative of the matter.

Application

4. (1) Regulations 5 and 6 apply to sports clubs playing in the first division of a sports league or in an international event (in both cases where the event is regulated by a sports governing body).

(2) Regulations 7 to 12 apply to events at a designated sports ground at which the participants are sports clubs referred to in paragraph (1).

Appointment of stewards

5. (1) The club safety and security officer must ensure that the club appoints—

- (a) a sufficient number of stewards for the events the club expects to participate in during the sports season;
- (b) a steward as the supervising steward for the sports season.

(2) If the appointment of the supervising steward is terminated for any reason during the sports season, the club safety and security officer must ensure the club appoints another steward to that position.

(3) In this regulation “sports season” means the period of the year during which the sport of the club is played.

Stewards: remuneration and equipment

6. (1) The club which appoints a steward must—

- (a) determine the appropriate remuneration for the steward’s duties at an event, and pay the steward that amount;
- (b) subject to paragraph (2), provide the steward with a uniform and any equipment necessary for the conduct of the steward’s duties.

(2) Paragraph (1)(b) does not apply if the steward is provided with a uniform and equipment under the corresponding Republican law.

Number of stewards at an event

7. (1) The minimum number of stewards to be assigned to duties on the tiers**(b)** at an event is 1 steward for each 100 spectators, subject to a minimum of 5 stewards.

(2) Subject to paragraph (1), the event co-ordination meeting**(c)** is to decide the number of stewards and the period during which they must be deployed at an event having regard, in particular, to the following factors—

- (a) the time the event is due to start and finish;
- (b) the nature of the event and the risk of public disorder;
- (c) the number of tickets sold;
- (d) the number of season ticket holders likely to attend;
- (e) the number of available seats;
- (f) the number of spectators expected to be present at the event;
- (g) the capacity of the designated sports ground;
- (h) the facilities at the designated sports ground.

(3) An event co-ordination meeting is to determine the number of stewards to be provided by—

- (a) the host club; and
- (b) the guest club.

(4) In exercising its powers under paragraphs (2) and (3), the event co-ordination meeting must have regard to the Chief Constable's advice.

(5) If the Chief Constable decides that the safe conduct of a designated event requires more stewards, or that it is necessary for the stewards to be on duty for a longer period, or both, than that decided by the event co-ordination meeting, the decision of the Chief Constable is binding on the host club and the guest club.

Stewards: first aid and fire fighting

8. (1) The club safety and security officer must ensure that a sufficient number of stewards are assigned to duties relating to first aid and fire fighting.

(2) The number of stewards assigned to duties under paragraph (1) is in addition to the minimum number of stewards assigned to duties on the tiers in accordance with regulation 7(1).

(3) A steward assigned to duties under paragraph (1) must have appropriate training in accordance with the corresponding Republican law.

Stationing of stewards and appointment of team leaders

9. (1) The security officer, in consultation with the host club's club safety and security officer and supervising steward, must—

- (a) decide where to station the stewards during an event;
- (b) divide the stewards into groups and appoint a team leader for each group.

(2) The supervising stewards of the host club and the guest club must ensure that—

- (a) the stewards are stationed in accordance with paragraph (1)(a);
- (b) the instructions of the security officer are carried out.

(3) The supervising stewards must maintain contact with the team leaders appointed under paragraph (1)(b), and the Chief Constable, throughout the period they are on duty during the event.

Duties of stewards

10. (1) The principal duty of a steward is to ensure that an event is conducted safely.

(2) A steward must not carry any item of equipment, other than that supplied in accordance with regulation 6.

(3) A supervising steward may be required to attend an event co-ordination meeting.

(4) A steward must comply with instructions issued by the supervising steward and a steward appointed as team leader (in both cases of either the host club or guest club), and must follow the instructions of and co-operate with police officers at the event.

(5) A steward appointed by the guest club must assist a steward of the host club in supervising the entry, exit and conduct of supporters of the guest club during the event.

(6) A steward may be required to carry out the following duties—

- (a) inspection of facilities at the sports ground;
- (b) checking tickets of spectators entering the sports ground;
- (c) checking whether a person seeking entry to the sports ground is subject to a banning order made under section 50 of the principal Ordinance or which has effect under section 51 of the principal Ordinance;
- (d) supervision of facilities at the sports ground during the event;
- (e) providing first aid;
- (f) directing spectators to seats;
- (g) fighting fires;
- (h) keeping entrances, exits and other passages at the sports ground free from obstructions;
- (i) supervising the movement of spectators around the sports ground so as to ensure the safe passage of spectators, particularly during entry to and exit from the ground;
- (j) supervising entrances, exits, the perimeter fence and other strategic points in the sports ground;
- (k) supervising and directing spectators in order to prevent overcrowding in a particular area of the sports ground;
- (l) assisting the police service, the fire service and ambulance service (the “emergency services”);
- (m) calling the emergency services;
- (n) following directions given by officers of the emergency services;
- (o) assisting in preventing a contravention of the principal Ordinance;
- (p) carrying out any function directed by the security officer.

Powers of stewards

11. (1) A steward may prevent a person who refuses to be searched under section 30(1) of the principal Ordinance from entering the sports ground.

(2) A steward may detain a person at the sports ground committing an offence specified under a provision in the principal Ordinance in column (a) of the table if, and only if, it appears to the steward it is not reasonably practicable for a police officer to arrest the person.

Table

<i>Provision of principal Ordinance Column (a)</i>	<i>Description of offence Column (b)</i>
Section 32(5)	Entering a sports ground without a valid ticket or accreditation, entering or being in a sports ground carrying an item specified in section 32(3)
Section 38(2)	Carrying or using an offensive weapon
Section 39(4)	Unlawfully entering a sports ground or playing area
Section 40(3)	Drunkenness or using an addictive narcotic substance
Section 41(2)	Obstructing or interfering with a sporting event
Section 42(2)	Using a dangerous item or throwing article capable of causing injury
Section 43(2)	Using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour
Section 44 (2)	Assaulting a person

Section 45(4), 45(5), 45(6) and 45(7)(a)	Taking part in an unlawful assembly or a riot; malicious damage of any part of a sports ground or building in the vicinity of a sports ground; taking part in a riot and by force causing cancellation, interruption or obstruction of an event
Section 47(4)	Participating in organising an event that it is prohibited; contravening an order prohibiting attendance of a person at an event, or an order prohibiting an event
Section 49(2)	Displaying or using inflammatory slogans, symbols or expressions
Section 50(7)	Contravening a banning order

(3) The description of the offence in column (b) of the table is a summary only and does not limit the application of the power of a steward to the conduct described.

(4) A steward who detains a person under paragraph (2) must hand the person to a police officer without unnecessary delay.

(5) This regulation does not limit the powers of a steward to arrest a person in accordance with section 15 (arrest by private person and owner of property without warrant) of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance(d).

Offences

12. A person who obstructs a steward in the exercise of the steward's duties commits an offence and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding €3,000.

Chief Constable: power not to recognise steward

13. (1) Where the Chief Constable considers that a person appointed as a steward is not suitable or capable of conducting the duties of a steward, the Chief Constable may direct that the person is not recognised as a steward for the purpose of these Regulations.

(2) The Chief Constable must inform the person concerned and the sports club which appointed the person of a direction under paragraph (1).

(3) A direction may be given orally during an event, but an oral direction must be confirmed in writing as soon as reasonably practicable.

(4) The effect of a direction under subsection (1) is that the steward may not perform the duties or exercise the powers of a steward under these Regulations.

(5) For the avoidance of doubt, the power in paragraph (1) may be exercised where the person is registered as a steward under the corresponding Republican law.

Dated this 6th day of January 2014.

(SBA/AG/2/CR/518/1)

J. S. Wright,
Deputy Administrator,
Sovereign Base Areas.

Notes

(a) Ordinance 10/2009, amended by Ordinance 5/2012 and 1/2014.

(b) "Tiers" is defined in section 2(1) of the principal Ordinance as the "tiers of seating provided for the spectators".

(c) An event co-ordination is defined in section 2(1) of the principal Ordinance as a meeting convened under section 18 of the principal Ordinance.

(d) Cap. 155, Statute Laws of Cyprus revised edition 1959, as applied in the Areas by the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia Order in Council 1960 (S.I. 1960/1369, United Kingdom). Schedule 2 to the Interpretation Ordinance 2012 (Ordinance 8/12) provides for the interpretation of such legislation.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

Introduction

1. This explanatory note relates to the Control of Violence in Sports Grounds (Stewards) Regulations 2014 (the “Regulations”). It has been prepared by the Office of the Attorney General and Legal Adviser in order to assist the reader of the Regulations.

2. This note should be read in conjunction with the Regulations. It is not (and is not meant to be) a comprehensive description of the Regulations. So, when a regulation or part of a regulation does not seem to require any explanation or comment, none is given.

Particular points

3. The purpose of the Regulations is to mirror relevant regulations in the Republic’s Public Instrument 536/2012. The Republican Regulations establish a register of stewards. Persons are barred from being a steward if they have criminal conviction for specified offences and may only be entered on the register if they have undergone prescribed training. The Control of the Violence in Sports Grounds (Amendment) Ordinance 2014 (which amends Control of the Violence in Sports Grounds Ordinance 2009 (the “principal Ordinance”), and comes into force on the same date as these Regulations) defines a steward as a person on the register kept under the corresponding Republican law. Accordingly, these Regulations do not mirror provisions relating to the register, but do mirror other provisions relating to stewards.

4. Regulation 3 provides that the Committee set up under the corresponding Republican law for the purpose of regulating stewards can exercise its functions in the Areas. Managers of sports ground are required to provide access to the ground and, along with sports clubs, provide information to the Committee. Its decisions are binding.

5. Regulation 4 makes provision for the application of the Regulations. Clubs playing in first division of a sports league or in an international event (defined in the principal Ordinance as an event where 1 or more of the clubs participating in the event is based outside the island of Cyprus) are required to appoint and pay stewards under regulations 5 and 6. Regulations 7 to 12 apply to events at a designated sports ground (the Ethnikos Akhna Stadium) where the participants are sports clubs playing the first division of a league or an international event.

6. Regulations 5 and 6 require clubs to which these Regulations apply to appoint a sufficient number of stewards and a supervising steward. The club appointing a steward is responsible for determining and paying remuneration, and providing uniform and appropriate equipment

7. Regulation 7 provides that the minimum number of stewards to be assigned to duties in the seating tiers is 1 for every 100 spectators. An event co-ordination meeting convened before an event takes place determines the actual number of stewards subject to this minimum. The meeting also determines the number to be provided by the host club and guest club. Regulation 8 provides that in addition to these stewards, other suitably qualified stewards are assigned to first aid and fire fighting duties.

8. Regulation 9 provides for the stationing of stewards and appointment of team leaders. Regulation 10 sets out the duties of stewards.

9. Regulation 11 provides that a steward has the power to prevent a spectator who refuses to be searched from entering the sports ground (under section 30(1) of the principal Ordinance a steward has the power to search a person entering the ground) and to detain a person committing a specified offence if it is not reasonably practicable for a police officer to arrest the person. A person detained under these powers must be handed to a police officer without unnecessary delay.

10. Regulation 12 makes it an offence to obstruct a steward in the exercise of the steward’s duties, with a maximum fine on conviction of €3,000.

11. Regulation 13 provides a power for the Chief Constable to determine a person is not recognised as a steward, including a person who is on the register kept under the corresponding Republican law.

