1.1 Appeals Process On Association Decisions

(a) All VMCU affiliated associations shall convene under the rules of their association a tribunal/executive to hear all relevant reports and hearings.

(b) All VMCU affiliated associations shall convene under the rules of their association an appeals process to an independent tribunal within their own association. No member who has sat on the original hearing or who has a perceived conflict of interest shall be party to the appeals process.

(c) All VMCU affiliated associations shall convene under the rules of their association the right of appeal to the VMCU by any person, player, club or association dealt with under (a) and (b) above. No member who has sat on the tribunal or the appeals process under (a) and (b) above shall be party to the VMCU Appeals Tribunal

No appeal will be considered unless all of the above clauses have been complied with.

1.1.1 A person, player, official, club or umpire dealt with by an association pursuant to the rules of the association may have the right of appeal to the V.M.C.U Appeals Tribunal. This right is not available until all appeal processes have been exhausted within the association. However, such right of appeal shall not extend to decisions or determinations of the association clearly specified in the association's rules as being the sole prerogative of the association in relation to matters of:

- Administration of the association.
- Arranging the competition and matches,
- The raising of finance,
- Financial matters relating to person, club, player or umpires,
- Player registrations,
- Constitutional matters and any other like matters.

1.1.2 The appeal process undertaken by person, player, umpire or club shall be limited to a single appeal. Appeals must be lodged in writing, within fourteen (14) days of the decision/hearing date, which is the subject of the appeal. An appeal fee of $200, or as set from time to time by the V.M.C.U. Board, must accompany any appeal submitted. The fee shall be forfeited if the appeal is deemed as frivolous by the body hearing the appeal. In the case of the appeal being deemed frivolous, half of the fee shall be retained by the V.M.C.U. and half shall be refunded to the association, or body, defending the appeal.

1.1.3 Appeals shall not be processed until the following have been complied with:

1.1.3.1 Decision/hearing findings are registered with the VMCU, by the association in the case of suspensions/fines imposed by the tribunal.

1.1.3.2 Person, player, official, club or umpire has notified the governing association of the intent to appeal and lodged with that association a copy of the grounds of appeal

1.1.3.3 Person, player, official, club or umpire is fully financial to the governing association.

1.1.4 Every person, player, official, club or umpire charged shall be afforded the opportunity to be present and hear all evidence given. If desired, an advocate may represent them, or if an umpire, by a member of his umpires' organisation and they or the representative shall have the right to question any witnesses called against him and lead evidence and produce witnesses in the defense and to address the tribunal.

1.1.5 The Appeals Tribunal shall be conducted in accordance with the V.M.C.U's Tribunal procedures.

1.1.6 A legal practitioner, only in exceptional circumstances, can act for any person appearing before the Tribunal. Not withstanding this restriction, the Tribunal shall have absolute discretion to grant or refuse leave in the circumstances where a club official who would

normally be expected to assist a party before the Tribunal, is a legal practitioner. Written legal opinion may be tendered in evidence.

1.1.7 Appellants and governing associations will be required to attend the Tribunal unless, and until, excused by the Tribunal.

1.1.8 The Tribunal Chairman shall forthwith report to the Board any determination or decision made by the Tribunal. The Board shall notify all parties in writing within 7 days, or electronically within 48 hours of receipt of the Tribunal's advice.

1.1.9 The V.M.C.U. Appeals Tribunal shall consist of no less than three (3) persons as decided by the VMCU Board

1.1.10 No appeal shall be heard unless:

1.1.10.1 Evidence not originally presented is available which may have reasonably affected the decision of the original ruling body; or

1.1.10.2 The appellant can demonstrate that an error in law or a ruling contrary to the Rules and/or the by-Laws/Constitution of the Association, was made by the ruling Association; or

1.1.10.3 In the opinion of the body hearing the appeal, the appeal ought, in fairness be heard.

1.1.11 All decisions made on appeals shall be made on balance of probabilities, and shall be final.