

Criteria for Participation in AFC Club Competitions

- These items are the minimum requirements to participation in AFC Club Competitions (AFC Champions League, AFC Cup and AFC President's Cup) 2011-2012 as well as the target for ACL 2012. Member Associations/Leagues/Clubs must meet the minimum requirements in order to participate in AFC Club Competitions 2011-2012.
- Club who participate in AFC Champions League 2013 must be authorised as a licensee from the Member Association/League which are the licensor by 2013, in accordance with the approval procedure in the Club Licensing Regulations.

		Minimum Requirement For AFC President's Cup (2011-2012)	Minimum Requirement For AFC Cup (2011-2012)	Minimum Requirement For ACL (2011-2012)	Target for ACL (2012)
1. Organisation	• Number of teams in the top division	6	8	10	12
	• Number of league matches per team in the top division	10	14	27	33
	• Duration of entire football season (including league, cup tournament and pre-season matches)	4 month	6 month	8 months	10 months
	• Duration of the league of the top division	2 month	4 month	8 months	8 months
	• League format of the top division	-	H&A	H&A	H & A
	• Number of International Referees in the association	-	2	5	6
	• Number of International Assistant Referees in the association	-	4	7	8
	• The league has education programme for referees	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• The league has an officially appointed Referee Assessor at league matches	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• The league has its regulations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• The league has regulations for the status and transfer of players	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• The league has its disciplinary code	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
• The league has a system for promotion/ relegation	-	-	Yes	Yes	
2. Technical Standard	• The total points of the technical standard	-	Within the top 34 MA	Within the top 23 MA	Within the top 23 MA
3. Attendance	• Average ticket price	-	-	Not free of charge	Not free of charge
	• Average number of attendance per match	-	1,000	5,000	5,000
	• The number of attendance per match is measured and announced in accurately counted figures	-	-	Yes	Yes
4. Governance/ Soundness	• Government's inappropriate intervention to the league management	None	None	None	None
	• Fixed game	None (in the past 1 season)	None (in the past 1 season)	None (in the past 3 seasons)	None
	• The league governing body is a legal entity governed by its football association	-	-	Yes	Yes
	• The league governing body has a management structure which controls competition, marketing, media and finance	-	Yes	Yes	Yes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Club representatives, ii) representatives of football association and iii) representatives from the league's top management are the members of the highest decision making body (executive committee) of the league 	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The position of the CEO must be full-time 	-	-	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league has an audited Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet 	-	-	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league has an auditor 	-	-	Yes	Yes
5. Marketing & Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league has centralised marketing system of the elements such as media rights, certain sponsorships and merchandise 	-	-	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league has promotion strategies 	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication tools such as i) league guidebook, ii) match programme and iii) website are available. 	-	1 element or more	Yes	Yes
6. Business Scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 3 elements of i) media rights, ii) sponsorship and iii) merchandising are the main sources of income in the league 	-	1 element or more	Yes	Yes
7. Game Operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An official Match Commissioner at league matches is appointed 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Different circulations for the spectator, media, players, officials and VIP are secured 	-	-	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Security Officer is appointed 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league has written security guidelines 	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league has hospitality programme for VIP and sponsors 	-	-	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league has fan service programmes at league matches 	-	-	Yes	Yes
8. Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league has a registration system for media representatives at league matches 	-	-	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league has a media related department in the league secretariat 	-	-	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each club has a media officer 	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each stadium has a media tribune 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each stadium has a media working room 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each stadium has a working space and required facilities for TV broadcasting 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre match/ post match media conferences are held 	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each stadium has a mixed zone at league matches 	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Match report is distributed to the media 	-	-	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The league provides match information to fans 	-	-	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How often the league matches are broadcasted in full length per season 	-	-	Minimum 30% (of the total matches)	Minimum 50% (of the total matches)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic league is covered on newspaper weekly 	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic league is covered on major football magazines on a monthly basis 	-	-	Yes	Yes	

9. Stadia	• Number of "A-class stadium" which could be used for ACL with a minimum capacity of 5,000 seats	(only for Host)	1	2	4
	The conditions for an A-class stadium are as below:-				
	i) Quality turf condition, size of pitch to be of FIFA standard				
	ii) Floodlighting installations which can evenly light the whole field of play at minimum of 1200 lux				
	iii) Roofs over part of the spectator seats				
	iv) Steady and enough power supply				
	v) Leading wires for broadcasting etc				
	vi) Dressing rooms for both players and referees, respectively				
	vii) A doping control room				
	viii) A medical room				
	ix) A security control room				
	x) A separated VIP seating area and a VIP lounge				
	xi) A working space and required facilities for press/ photographers				
	xii) A working space and required facilities for TV and radio				
	xiii) Utilities which generate revenues (eg. Kiosks for food and beverage service, Kiosks for sales of team merchandising goods, Sky boxes to accommodate special customers)				
	xiv) Provides hospitality and comfortableness for the spectators				
xv) Located in a city which has an international airport within a radius of two hundreds (200) kilometers and a journey time of no more than two hours and thirty (150) minutes between the venue of the match and the international airport. Otherwise, located in a city which has at least for (4) connecting flights from the nearest international air port to the venue of the match					
10. Clubs	• Number of players under professional contract in the top team of each club	-	-	18	20
	• All the clubs have the revenue such as i) gate receipts, ii) media rights, iii) sponsorship, iv) merchandising, v) transfer fee income and vi) revenue distributed from the league	-	1 element or more	Yes	Yes
	• All the clubs are commercial entities under its national law	-	-	Yes	Yes
	• No clubs have overdue payment	-	-	No	No
	• Submission of an audited Profit and Loss statement and Balance Sheet to the League governing body	-	-	Yes	Yes
	• Cross-ownership of the clubs is not allowed	-	No	No	No
	• The directors and employees of one club are not employed by any other clubs nor do they possess the shares of any other clubs, either	-	-	No	No

	• All clubs have youth development programmes with youth teams in the clubs or affiliated to the clubs	-	-	Yes	Yes
	• All clubs' head coaches possess AFC "A" License Diploma or equivalent license approved by AFC	AFC "B" License	AFC "B" License	Yes	Yes
	• All clubs have competent management staff who are in charge of the tasks such as competition, marketing, media and finance	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• All clubs have or can guarantee the use of home stadium with a minimum capacity of 3,000 seats	Yes (not 3,000)	Yes (not 3,000)	Yes	Yes
	• All clubs have or can guarantee the use of the training sites	-	-	Yes	Yes
	• All clubs conduct activities contributing to the local community of the hometowns	-	-	Yes	Yes
	• All the clubs can prove the support from a local government in the following areas; Use of home stadium, Use of training site, Improvement of access to the stadium for the fans	-	-	Yes	Yes
11. Infrastructure	• Easy visa obtain process	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• Daily international flights with West and East Asia	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• Simplified airport procedures, easy immigration / customs	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• Well established local transportation infrastructure	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• Teams / Officials hotel	-	3-4 stars	4-5 stars	5 stars
Participating Countries					
	No Participation (9 MAs) ***** Afghanistan Brunei DPR Korea Guam Laos Macau Mongolia Palestine Philippine	AFC President Cup 2009 (11 MAs) ***** Tajikistan Pakistan Chinese Taipei Nepal Turkmenistan Bangladesh Sri Lanka Kyrgyzstan Myanmar Cambodia Bhutan	AFC Cup 2009 (16 MAs) ***** Bahrain (2 Teams) Uzbekistan (1 Team) Lebanon (3 Teams) Yemen (2 Teams) Oman (2 Teams) Kuwait (2 Teams) Iraq (2 teams) Syria (2 Teams) Jordan (2 Teams) India (2 Teams) Hong Kong (2 Teams) Maldives (2 Teams) Malaysia (2 Teams) Thailand (2 Teams) Vietnam (2 Teams) Indonesia (1 Team) Singapore (1 Team)	ACL 2009 (11 MAs) ***** IR Iran (4 Teams) Saudi Arabia (4 Teams) UAE (4 Teams) Uzbekistan (2 Teams) Qatar (2 Teams) Japan (4 Teams) China (4 Teams) Korea Rep (4 Teams) Australia (2 Teams) Indonesia (1 Team) Singapore (1 Team)	