



وزارة الرياضة  
Ministry of Sport



# Licensing Regulations for Private Sports Centers & Gymnasiums

## Article 1: Definitions

The following words and phrases, wherever mentioned in these Regulations, shall have the meanings given next to each of them, unless the context requires otherwise:

- The Ministry:** The Ministry of Sport.
- Minister:** The Minister of Sport.
- Regulations:** These Licensing Regulations for Private Sports Centers & Gymnasiums.
- Sports Activities:** Operating any of the following economic activities: (a) sports facilities, (b) sports centers and gymnasiums, (c) men's sports centers and gymnasiums, (d) women's sports centers and gymnasiums, (e) any other activity related to any non-competitive sport.
- Private Sports Centers & Gymnasiums:** Any commercial entity registered under a commercial registry with the Ministry of Commerce and holding a license from the Ministry to practice the activity.
- License:** The license issued to a Private Sports Center & Gymnasium by the Ministry after the applicant meets the requirements contained in these Regulations.
- Licensee:** A Private Sports Center & Gymnasium that has obtained a license from the Ministry in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.
- Competent Department:** The General Department of Licensing or its representative.
- Competent Committee:** The committee competent to consider objections to the decisions of the Competent Department referred to in Article 13.
- Table of Violations and Penalties:** The table of violations and penalties related to the Licensing Regulations for Private Sports Gymnasiums & Centers issued under the provisions of these Regulations.

## Article 2: Objectives and Scope of the Regulations

These Regulations aim to establish the supervisory framework for the relationship between the Ministry and the Licensee to ensure improved services provided and motivate the private sector to invest in sports, thus contributing to an enhanced level of sports practitioners among the various groups of society. These Regulations also aim to specify the requirements and procedures for licensing Private Sports Centers & Gymnasiums, enabling them to practice their activities, along with regulating the obligations of Licensees.

### Article 3: General Provisions

1. Subject to the regulations and powers of other relevant authorities, the Ministry – in its capacity as the organizer of the sports sector in the KSA – shall be competent to issue the necessary licenses for practicing the activities of Private Sports Centers & Gymnasiums and their related works.
2. Private Sports Centers & Gymnasiums may only practice its sports activities after obtaining a license from the Ministry in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.
3. Obtaining a license shall not be deemed an exemption from obtaining any other necessary licenses from other relevant authorities, or from complying with the provisions of any other relevant laws or regulations.
4. A Licensee may apply to the Ministry to open another geographically defined branch of the Private Sports Center & Gymnasium, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5 hereof.

### Article 4: License Conditions

An applicant must meet the following conditions when submitting a license application:

1. Building and facility conditions:
  - (a) Fulfil the requirements for sports buildings issued by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs/Saudi Building Code and any update or amendment thereto, as well as other related laws and regulations.
  - (b) Submit an engineering drawing for the establishment from an approved engineering office, specifying the lengths and areas and all activities to be licensed.
  - (c) Satisfy the health conditions and safety and security rules issued by the Ministry, Civil Defense and the related bodies.
  - (d) Meet the minimum conditions, technical specifications and technical standards for the establishments and sports stadiums located within the Sports Center or Gymnasium as specified by the Ministry or the related federations.
2. Administrative conditions:
  - (a) Provide an operational and administrative system that sets out the conditions for subscriber admission and registration and the rules of conduct and discipline, in addition to the rights and obligations of subscribers in accordance with the Consumer Protection Document issued by the Ministry.



- (b) Adhere to a number of subscribers that does not exceed the capacity of the sports center or gymnasium, according to the instructions issued by the Ministry. The age of subscribers shall not be less than 16 years, unless the sports center or gymnasium is for children.
  - (c) Provide a mechanism to regulate the access of the subscribers, which preserves the confidentiality of the private information of every subscriber.
3. Technical conditions:
  - (a) Provide a sufficient number of qualified and certified workers and trainers in accordance with the Ministry's requirements and regulations.
  - (b) Provide a sufficient number of devices and special tools for each sports activity and separate the sites allocated for practicing different sports activities within the Sports Center or Gymnasium.
  - (c) Provide a guide on the correct methods for using sports equipment and devices and every other facility in the Sports Center or Gymnasium.
  - (d) All trainers at the Sports Center or Gymnasium must obtain adequate first aid training.

#### **Article 5: Requirements of Applying for and Renewing the License**

1. Without prejudice to the provision of Article 4 hereof, a two-year license to open a private sports center or gymnasium shall be issued to the applicant after meeting the following conditions:
  - (a) Sign the relevant forms and declarations requested by the Ministry when applying for a license.
  - (b) Provide a copy of the commercial register issued by the Ministry of Commerce, which includes the activities of the Private Sports Center or Gymnasium.
  - (c) Submit copies of all necessary statutory licenses related to the applicant entity.
  - (d) Provide proof of the legal capacity of the applicant, as follows:
    - A copy of the ID card, if the applicant is the owner of the entity.
    - A copy of the ID card and memorandum of association or document containing the powers to apply for a license, if the applicant is the entity's manager.



- A copy of the ID card and a valid power of attorney given under the relevant laws, if the applicant is a person other than the entity's owner or manager.
2. The application to obtain a license shall be submitted through the Ministry's website in accordance with the guide issued by the Ministry in this regard.
  3. The Licensee may apply to renewing the license issued to it for a similar period during the last three (3) months of the validity period of its license, without prejudice to any of the obligations set out in Article 7 herein.

#### Article 6: Obligations of the Licensee

The Licensee shall:

1. Comply with all relevant regulations and laws.
2. Comply with all circulars, decisions and instructions issued by the Ministry from time to time.
3. Not train or rehabilitate injured persons inside the club without obtaining a permit from the competent authority.
4. Bar the sale, promotion, or use of any of the stimulants not licensed by the Saudi Food & Drug Authority inside its establishment.
5. Send a notification to the Ministry in the following cases:
  - (a) Any changes to the information and documents provided to the Ministry by the Licensee in order to obtain the license, within 10 working days from the date of the change.
  - (b) Any changes to the Licensee's memorandum of association, articles of association or commercial register.
6. Place the name and logo of the Sports Center or Gymnasium on all official correspondences issued thereby.
7. Provide the Ministry with all required information in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.
8. Not assign its license to others or dispose of the license in any other way except after obtaining prior approval from the Ministry.

#### Article 7: Violations and Penalties

1. The Ministry may adopt the necessary corrective measures to deal with any violation or issue instructions to correct a violation, setting a specific deadline for such, or undertake any other measures the Ministry deems necessary.



2. Without prejudice to any more severe penalty or punishment stipulated in any other law, the Ministry may, if the Licensee violates the provisions of these Regulations, impose one or more of the penalties provided in Cabinet Resolution No. 248 dated 9/5/1440 AH, as amended by Cabinet Resolution No. 95 dated 5/2/1442 AH, as detailed in the table of violations and penalties, which are as follows:
  - a. A fine not exceeding fifty thousand Saudi Riyals.
  - b. Temporary suspension or cancellation of the license issued by the Ministry. Licensees whose license has been cancelled may not reapply for a license until twelve (12) months after the date of cancellation.
3. Each of the following acts is considered a violation of the provisions of these Regulation:
  - (a) Practicing the activities mentioned in the Regulations without obtaining a valid license from the Ministry in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.
  - (b) Breaching any of the Licensee's obligations under the Regulations.
  - (c) Violating any of the declarations made by the Licensee when applying for a license.
  - (d) Any other violation of the provisions of these Regulations.
4. The table of violations and penalties shall be updated by a decision from the Minister in accordance with the requirements of the public interest.
5. The fine imposed on the Licensee for the first time may be doubled in the event of a repeat violation, provided that it not exceed the maximum limit of the fine referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of the second paragraph of this Article.
6. If the Licensee commits the same violation (24) twenty-four months after the date it first committed the violation, it shall not be considered a repeat violation, but rather as a first-time violation.
7. In the event of multiple violations resulting from one act only, the penalty shall be imposed on each violation separately according to the table of violations and penalties.
8. The Ministry may not impose any penalty on the violator if more than three (3) months from the date on which the violation was confirmed have passed, unless the violation is ongoing.



9. The Ministry shall notify the violator in writing of the penalties imposed on it, their type and amount, and the penalty that will be imposed on it in the event of a repeat violation.
10. A statement of sanctions shall be produced for each Licensee, in which the type of the violation it committed, the date on which it was committed and the penalty imposed thereon shall be written down. This statement shall be kept in the file assigned thereto.

#### **Article 8: Oversight**

1. Subject to the competencies of other government agencies, the Ministry and the Concerned Federation may oversee persons, entities, establishments and activities related to the implementation of these Regulations.
2. The Ministry shall perform the necessary oversight processes for licensed entities through Ministry officials to achieve this purpose.
3. The Oversight Division shall report the results and recommendations to the Competent Department at the Ministry to impose appropriate penalties or fines in accordance with the table of violations and penalties.
4. The Ministry shall maintain the confidentiality of information and not disclose it to third parties except in accordance with the laws and regulations.
5. Ministry officials may verify the financial and administrative reports of the applicant entity or Licensee.
6. The Ministry shall issue the rules and procedures for oversight and clarify the rules and procedures of the powers granted to the Ministry's observers and the work rules and procedures that must be followed.

#### **Article 9: Complaints**

1. Complaints arising from the application of the Regulations shall be received through the Ministry's website.
2. The Competent Department shall review, study, and verify the complaints. If verified as correct, the appropriate action shall be adopted or the complaint shall be settled amicably in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations. The complainant shall attach to their complaint the following documents:
  - (a) Natural persons must attach a copy of the national ID card for Saudis and citizens of other Arab Gulf Countries, a copy of the residence permit for non-Saudis, or a copy of the passport for those residing outside the KSA.
  - (b) Legal persons must attach a copy of the commercial register. The complaint must be signed by the authorized person.



- (c) A copy of a valid power of attorney and the national ID of the legal attorney.
- (d) A copy of the documents supporting the complaint.

#### **Article 10: The Committee Competent to Consider Objections**

1. A committee shall be formed by a decision of the Minister, consisting of three members, one a representative of the legal division, to review the objections to violations and penalties issued by the Competent Department.
2. The decisions of the committee referred to in this Article may be challenged before the competent court inside the KSA according to the relevant laws.
3. The Minister shall approve the rules regulating the work of the committee mentioned in this Article.

#### **Article 11: Final Provisions**

1. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Law, the Ministry may instruct the Licensee to prepare and present its annual financial statements.
2. These Regulations shall come into force on the date of their publication.
3. The Ministry shall have competence to amend and interpret the provisions of these Regulations. It has the right to make decisions on all matters not provided for herein in accordance with the requirements of the public interest.



