

Football Governance Bill [HL]

MARSHALLED
LIST OF AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
ON REPORT

The amendments have been marshalled in accordance with the Instruction of 26th February 2025, as follows –

Clauses 1 to 3	Schedule 7
Schedule 1	Clause 68
Clauses 4 and 5	Schedule 8
Schedule 2	Clauses 69 to 75
Clauses 6 to 9	Schedule 9
Schedule 3	Clauses 76 to 81
Clauses 10 to 18	Schedule 10
Schedule 4	Clauses 82 to 93
Clauses 19 and 20	Schedule 11
Schedule 5	Clauses 94 to 97
Clauses 21 to 24	Schedule 12
Schedule 6	Clauses 98 to 100
Clauses 25 to 67	Title

[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

**Amendment
No.**

Clause 1

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

- 1★** Clause 1, page 1, line 4, leave out subsection (1) and insert –
- “(1) The purpose of this Act is to protect the financial sustainability and success of English football.
 - (1A) The Secretary of State must, in taking any action under this Act, have regard to this purpose.
 - (1B) The Independent Football Regulator must, in exercising its functions under this Act, have regard to this purpose.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment alters the purpose clause to include financial sustainability and success, and to give legal effect by requiring the Secretary of State and the IFR to have regard to that purpose.

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

- 2★ Clause 1, page 2, line 2, after the first “of” insert “current and prospective”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment specifies that fans includes current and prospective fans.

LORD ADDINGTON

- 3★ Clause 1, page 2, line 4, at end insert –

“(c) meets the social responsibility duty set out in section (*Social responsibility duty*).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment includes in the definition of English football sustainability the social responsibility duty created by the amendment after Clause 51 in the name of Lord Addington.

LORD MOYNIHAN

- 4 Clause 1, page 2, line 4, at end insert –

“(3A) In exercising their powers and functions under this Act, the Secretary of State or the IFR may not act in a way which conflicts with any regulations or rules of international football governing bodies.”

Clause 2

LORD MOYNIHAN

- 5 Clause 2, page 2, line 16, at end insert –

““international football governing bodies” means FIFA and UEFA and any successor bodies to those organisations;”

LORD MOYNIHAN

- 6 Clause 2, page 2, line 31, leave out subsection (3) and insert –

“(3) For the purposes of this Act a “specified competition” includes –
(a) the Premier League,
(b) the English Football League, and

(c) the National League,
and any successors to those leagues.

(3A) The Secretary of State may by regulations made by statutory instrument amend the competitions specified in section (3).”

Clause 3

LORD MOYNIHAN

7 Clause 3, page 3, line 15, leave out “influence or”

Schedule 2

LORD MAUDE OF HORSHAM
LORD GOODMAN OF WYCOMBE

8★ Schedule 2, page 85, line 12, at end insert—

- “3A (1) The Secretary of State is to nominate a person (“the nominated person”) to be the chair.
- (2) The nominated person must appear before a relevant Parliamentary Committee if invited to do so.
- (3) The Secretary of State may not proceed with the appointment of the nominated person unless the relevant Parliamentary Committee has held a confirmatory vote if the Committee wishes to do so.
- (4) Where the relevant Parliamentary Committee has expressed a negative opinion on the appointment of the nominated person, the Secretary of State may not proceed with the appointment of the nominated person.
- (5) Where the relevant Parliamentary Committee has expressed a positive opinion on the appointment of the nominated person, the Secretary of State may proceed with the appointment of the nominated person.
- (6) A relevant Parliamentary Committee is any Committee of the House of Commons, or House of Lords, or of both Houses, which has notified the Secretary of State, in writing, that they have assumed the function of scrutiny of football regulation.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment provides that the chair may undergo pre-appointment scrutiny and be approved by a select committee of Parliament.

BARONESS TWYXCROSS
 BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON
 LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON

9 Schedule 2, page 85, line 37, at end insert—

“Declaration and registration of interests of members of the Board

6A (1) The IFR must establish and maintain a system for the declaration and registration of relevant interests of members of the Board.

(2) In this paragraph “relevant interest”, in relation to a member of the Board, means a financial or other interest that may be relevant to the IFR’s exercise of its functions under this Act.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment requires the IFR to establish and maintain a system for the declaration and registration of relevant interests of members of the Board.

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
 LORD MARKHAM

10 Schedule 2, page 90, line 16, after “six” insert “or more than twenty”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment limits the number of people who can be appointed to the Expert Panel.

BARONESS TWYXCROSS
 LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON
 BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON

11 Schedule 2, page 91, line 3, at end insert—

“Declaration and registration of interests of members of the Expert Panel

23A(1) The IFR must establish and maintain a system for the declaration and registration of relevant interests of members of the Expert Panel.

(2) In this paragraph “relevant interest”, in relation to a member of the Expert Panel, means a financial or other interest that may be relevant to the IFR’s exercise of its functions under this Act.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment requires the IFR to establish and maintain a system for the declaration and registration of relevant interests of members of the Expert Panel.

Clause 6

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB
THE LORD BISHOP OF SHEFFIELD

12 Clause 6, page 5, line 14, at end insert –

“(d) to monitor and promote the reduction of English football’s climate and environmental impacts (referred to in this Act as “the environmental objective”).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would add climate and environment impact reduction to the IFR’s objectives.

Clause 7

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB
LORD GASCOIGNE
THE LORD BISHOP OF SHEFFIELD

13 Clause 7, page 5, line 19, at end insert –

“(c) is compatible with the Climate Change Act 2008 and secures the long-term environmental sustainability of English football.”

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

14 Clause 7, page 5, line 26, leave out “financial investment in” and insert “the financial growth of, or financial investment in,”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the IFR to have regard to the desirability of exercising its functions in a way that avoids any adverse effects on the financial growth of English football.

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM
BARONESS EVANS OF BOWES PARK

15 Clause 7, page 5, line 26, at end insert –

“(d) adverse effects on the growth of English football.”

LORD MOYNIHAN

16 Clause 7, page 5, line 34, at end insert –

“(f) its duties under section (*Protection against trade disputes*).”

Clause 8

BARONESS TWYCROSS
BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON
LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON
LORD ADDINGTON

17 Clause 8, page 6, line 6, leave out sub-paragraphs (i) to (iii) and insert –

- “(i) persons on whom it may impose requirements or restrictions, namely clubs, owners, senior managers and other officers of clubs, and competition organisers, and
- (ii) other persons who may be affected by its decisions, including players and fans;”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment amends the regulatory principle in clause 8(b) so that the IFR should co-operate, and proactively and constructively engage, with persons who may be affected by its decisions.

BARONESS TWYCROSS
LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON
BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON

18 Clause 8, page 6, line 9, at end insert –

- “(ba) it should, before it imposes any requirement or restriction on a person, have regard to whether the requirement or restriction is necessary and whether a similar outcome could be achieved by less burdensome means;”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment includes a regulatory principle that the IFR should, before it imposes any requirement or restriction on a person, have regard to whether it is necessary and whether a similar outcome could be achieved by less burdensome means.

LORD PANNICK
BARONESS BRADY
LORD BIRT

As an amendment to Amendment 18

19 At end insert “and it should seek to exercise its functions with a light-touch, conferring a broad margin of discretion on such persons”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to state as a regulatory principle that the IFR must regulate with a light-touch.

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

- 20 Clause 8, page 6, line 13, leave out “recognises” and insert “has regard to”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment makes a minor drafting change to the regulatory principle in clause 8(d).

Clause 10

LORD BIRT
LORD THOMAS OF CWMGIEDD
LORD PANNICK
LORD BURNS

- 21 Clause 10, page 6, line 35, at end insert “, including its global appeal”

LORD BIRT
LORD THOMAS OF CWMGIEDD
LORD PANNICK
LORD BURNS

- 22 Clause 10, page 7, line 7, at end insert –

“(4A) If a specified competition organiser makes an application under section 57, and more than two years have passed since the most recent state of the game report, the IFR shall update the state of the game report as necessary within three months of the date of the specified competition organiser’s application under section 57.”

After Clause 10

LORD ADDINGTON

- 23 After Clause 10, insert the following new Clause –

“Review of advertising and sponsorship related to gambling in English football

- (1) Within one year of establishment, the IFR must conduct a review of advertising and sponsorship related to gambling in English football.
- (2) The review must make recommendations regarding the necessary steps to achieve the elimination of advertising and sponsorship related to gambling in English football within five years of the day on which this Act is passed.
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay the review before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the IFR to conduct a review and make recommendations regarding the steps required to eliminate advertising and sponsorship related to gambling in English football.

Clause 11

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

- 24 Clause 11, page 7, line 26, leave out “three” and insert “five”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment changes the minimum frequency of revised football governance statements from every three years to every five years.

Clause 12

BARONESS BRADY

- 25★ Clause 12, page 7, line 38, leave out “sections 21 to 25 (discretionary licence conditions)” and insert “this Act”

After Clause 13

LORD MOYNIHAN

- 26 After Clause 13, insert the following new Clause –

“Protection against trade disputes

- (1) The IFR must, in exercising its functions under this Act, ensure that any decisions or interventions affecting financial distributions or commercial operations –
 - (a) are fully compliant with the United Kingdom’s obligations under international trade agreements and bilateral investment treaties, including but not limited to –
 - (i) fair and equitable treatment standards for foreign investors,
 - (ii) protections against indirect expropriation, and
 - (iii) national treatment obligations,
 - (b) do not result in a regulatory framework that disproportionately or discriminatorily impacts clubs owned by foreign investors compared to those owned by United Kingdom entities.
- (2) The IFR must consult with HM Treasury and the Department for Business and Trade before any major intervention affecting financial distributions or commercial operations, to assess whether the proposed action risks an international trade dispute or investor-state claim against the United Kingdom.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to address issues stemming from the high level of international ownership in the Premier League and the potential impact on trade and investment treaties of decisions affecting financial distributions.

Clause 14

LORD RANGER OF NORTHWOOD

27★ Clause 14, page 8, line 37, at end insert –

“(aa) a review of the impact of the activity of the IFR on ticket prices, and”

Clause 16

LORD MOYNIHAN

28 Clause 16, page 10, line 14, at end insert –

“(4A) A club is not required to provide the information specified in subsections (4)(a) or (b) until the definition of “significant influence” has been consulted on and established by the Secretary of State under Schedule 1, paragraph 15(1).”

Schedule 4

LORD ADDINGTON

29 Schedule 4, page 97, line 24, at end insert –

“(f) the club’s use of advertising and sponsorship by gambling companies, their affiliates, and partner organisations.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment requires clubs to consult fans regarding the club’s use of advertising and sponsorship by gambling companies, their affiliates, and partner organisations.

BARONESS TWYXCROSS
LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON
BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON
LORD ADDINGTON

30 Schedule 4, page 97, line 27, leave out paragraph (b) and insert –

“(b) any emblem or crest of a relevant team operated by the club;
(ba) the predominant home shirt colours of a relevant team operated by the club;”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment adds a reference to a team’s “emblem” alongside “crest”, to avoid confusion with the heraldic use of the term “crest”.

Schedule 5

LORD JACKSON OF PETERBOROUGH
BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY

- 31 Schedule 5, page 99, line 11, leave out paragraph (ii)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, along with the other amendment in the name of Lord Jackson of Peterborough to Schedule 5, is intended to remove the equality, diversity and inclusion provisions of the Bill.

BARONESS TWYCROSS
BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON
LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON
LORD ADDINGTON

- 32 Schedule 5, page 99, line 36, at end insert –

“(ca) how the club contributes to the economic and social well-being of the local community with which it is associated,”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment makes a club's contribution to the economic and social well-being of its local community part of its corporate governance.

BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY
LORD JACKSON OF PETERBOROUGH

- 33 Schedule 5, page 99, line 37, leave out sub-sub-paragraph (d)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, along with the other amendment in the name of Lord Jackson of Peterborough to Schedule 5, is intended to remove the equality, diversity and inclusion provisions of the Bill.

LORD MARKHAM
LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY

- 34★ Schedule 5, page 99, line 38, at end insert –

“(2A) The code of practice should include guidance on the appointment of independent non-executive directors and must recommend the appointment of at least two non-executive directors.”

Clause 21

BARONESS GREY-THOMPSON
LORD GRANTCHESTER

- 35★ Clause 21, page 14, line 6, at end insert “, and
- (ii) if the club has a women’s team, ensure the club will meet, or will continue to meet, any licensing criteria applicable to the women’s team and its relevant competitions.”

Clause 22

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

- 36 Clause 22, page 14, line 33, at end insert “or conduct which it reasonably suspects to be harmful to the interests of the United Kingdom”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment permits the Regulator to restrict funding for clubs which may be linked to conduct harmful to the interests of the United Kingdom.

BARONESS TWYCROSS
LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON
BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON

- 37 Clause 22, page 15, line 14, leave out “such persons as the IFR considers appropriate” and insert “ –
- (a) all regulated clubs,
(b) each specified competition organiser, and
(c) such other persons as the IFR considers appropriate.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the IFR to consult clubs and competition organisers, in addition to other persons it considers appropriate, before making a request to the Secretary of State to make regulations amending the types of discretionary licence condition set out in clause 22(1), (2) and (3).

Clause 23

LORD GODDARD OF STOCKPORT

- 38★ Clause 23, page 15, line 24, leave out paragraph (b)

Member's explanatory statement

This is part of a package of amendments which introduce safeguards ensuring that clubs have a say in the processes where a league may only step into the IFR’s regulatory role if the club gives

consent, and they ensure where a league does step in, its regulatory actions are confined to the club concerned.

LORD GODDARD OF STOCKPORT

39 Clause 23, page 15, line 31, leave out paragraph (c) and insert –

- “(c) in the case of a notice given to a club, invite –
 - (i) the club to make representations about the proposed condition or variation, and
- (ca) in the case of a notice given to a specified competition organiser, invite the specified competition organiser –
 - (i) to make representations about the proposed condition or variation, and
 - (ii) to give a commitment to take action in lieu of the proposed condition or variation,”

Member's explanatory statement

This is part of a package of amendments which introduce safeguards ensuring that clubs have a say in the processes where league may only step into the IFR's regulatory role if the club gives consent, and they ensure where a league does step in, its regulatory actions are confined to the club concerned.

LORD GODDARD OF STOCKPORT

40★ Clause 23, page 15, line 40, at end insert –

- “(4A) If the club objects to the proposed condition or variation, the IFR must then give a notice about the proposed condition or variation to the specified competition organiser which organises a specified competition in relation to which a relevant team is operated by the club.
- (4B) The notice must follow the same specifications as in subsection (3), and the period specified in the notice for making representations or giving a commitment must be a period of not less than 14 days beginning with the day on which the notice is given.”

Member's explanatory statement

This is part of a package of amendments which introduce safeguards ensuring that clubs have a say in the processes where a league may only step into the IFR's regulatory role if the club gives consent, and they ensure where a league does step in, its regulatory actions are confined to the club concerned.

Clause 24

LORD GODDARD OF STOCKPORT

- 41 Clause 24, page 16, line 20, at end insert –
- “(c) the club agrees to the commitment, and
 - (d) the commitment relates only to the club.”

Member's explanatory statement

This is part of a package of amendments which introduce safeguards ensuring that clubs have a say in the processes where league may only step into the IFR's regulatory role if the club gives consent, and they ensure where a league does step in, its regulatory actions are confined to the club concerned.

Clause 26

LORD FULLER

- 42★ Clause 26, page 18, line 25, leave out “before a person becomes an owner or officer of a regulated club, or”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment relates to another amendment in the name of Lord Fuller to leave out Clause 27.

LORD FULLER

- 43★ Clause 26, page 18, line 34, leave out “27” and insert “28”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment relates to another amendment in the name of Lord Fuller to leave out Clause 27.

LORD FULLER

- 44★ Clause 26, page 18, line 35, leave out “prospective”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment relates to another amendment in the name of Lord Fuller to leave out Clause 27.

Clause 27

LORD FULLER

- 45★ Leave out Clause 27

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes the requirement for a person, an individual or a regulated club to notify the IFR when there is only a ‘reasonable prospect’ of that person becoming an owner.

Clause 37

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

46 Clause 37, page 28, line 28, at end insert –

“(fa) whether the individual is reasonably believed to be, or have been, involved in terrorism related activity;”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment permits the regulator to restrict funding from sources that may be reasonably believed to relate to terrorism.

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

47 Clause 37, page 29, line 2, at end insert –

“(3A) In making a determination under this Part, the IFR may consult –
(a) the National Crime Agency;
(b) the Security Service;
(c) the Secret Intelligence Service;
(d) the Government Communications Headquarters;
(d) the Serious Fraud Office;
(e) His Majesty’s Revenue and Customs.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment permits the regulator to consult the bodies listed when making a determination of owners and officers.

Clause 46

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

48 Clause 46, page 38, line 39, leave out “carries on an activity” and insert “takes any step”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment corrects a drafting inconsistency in clause 46.

Clause 49

BARONESS TWYXCROSS
BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON
LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON

49 Clause 49, page 40, line 27, leave out from “to” to end of line 28 and insert –

“(a) any emblem or crest of a relevant team operated by the club, or

- (b) the predominant home shirt colours of such a team,”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment adds a reference to a team's "emblem" alongside "crest", to avoid confusion with the heraldic use of the term "crest".

After Clause 51

LORD ADDINGTON

50★ After Clause 51, insert the following new Clause –

“Social responsibility duty

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations categorise the degree to which regulated clubs must comply with subsection (3) based on the league in which they play.
- (2) This categorisation must determine that regulated clubs which play in higher leagues will have a more stringent requirement on them to meet the provision in subsection (3).
- (3) The IFR must ensure regulated clubs establish training schemes in local communities.
- (4) The training schemes must provide opportunities for individuals in local communities to develop knowledge and skills congruent with becoming –
 - (a) a sports club, charity, or voluntary group treasurer;
 - (b) a sports club, charity, or voluntary group secretary;
 - (c) a sports club, charity, or voluntary chairperson.
- (5) Regulated clubs must publish an annual report regarding how they have met the social responsibility duty and its effects.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require the IFR to ensure that regulated clubs provide training to local communities which develop competencies consistent with officers of an organisation.

Clause 53

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

51 Clause 53, page 43, line 19, at end insert –

- “(8A) If levy rules make the provision mentioned in subsection (8)(b), they must provide –
- (a) for the rate at which interest is charged not to exceed an annual percentage rate of 5% plus the Bank of England base rate,
 - (b) that the IFR may charge interest at a rate determined by the IFR that is lower than the rate that would otherwise be applicable under the rules, where the IFR considers that appropriate, and

- (c) that the IFR may disapply a requirement for interest to be charged, where the IFR considers that appropriate.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment caps the rate of interest on late levy payments that the IFR may provide for in the levy rules at an annual percentage rate of 5% plus Bank of England base rate and gives the IFR discretion to charge a lower rate of interest or no interest in particular cases.

Clause 54

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

- 52 Clause 54, page 43, line 38, leave out subsection (2)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the regulator to consult on all changes to levy rules.

After Clause 54

LORD ADDINGTON

- 53 After Clause 54, insert the following new Clause –

“Duty to prevent advertising and sponsorship related to gambling in English football

English football must not promote or engage in advertising or sponsorship related to gambling.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment prevents regulated clubs and competitions from promoting or engaging in gambling advertising or sponsorship.

LORD ADDINGTON

- 54 After Clause 54, insert the following new Clause –

“Duty to phase-out advertising and sponsorship related to gambling in English football

- (1) The Secretary of State and the IFR must take all necessary steps to achieve the phase-out of advertising and sponsorship related to gambling in English football within 3 years of the passing of this Act.
- (2) “Phase-out” means gradual elimination reaching an end-state of total elimination.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the SoS and IFR to gradually eliminate advertising and sponsorship related to gambling in English football.

Clause 55

LORD GODDARD OF STOCKPORT

55★ Clause 55, page 45, line 13, at end insert –

“(6A) A specified competition organiser may add, remove or vary materially a specified competition rule only if the IFR agrees to the addition, removal or variation.”

Member's explanatory statement

When taken together, this and another amendment in the name of Lord Goddard provide that a league may only change relevant rules falling within the IFR's remit if the IFR gives its agreement to the change, and allow the IFR to specify further information that a competition organiser must provide to the IFR when consulting it on a relevant rule change.

LORD GODDARD OF STOCKPORT

56★ Clause 55, page 45, line 17, at end insert –

“(c) include such other information as may be specified by the IFR in rules.”

Member's explanatory statement

When taken together, this and another amendment in the name of Lord Goddard provide that a league may only change relevant rules falling within the IFR's remit if the IFR gives its agreement to the change, and allow the IFR to specify further information that a competition organiser must provide to the IFR when consulting it on a relevant rule change.

Clause 56LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

57 Clause 56, page 45, line 32, leave out subsection (2) and insert –

“(2) In this Part, revenue received by a specified competition organiser is “relevant revenue” if –

- (a) it is revenue received as a result of the sale or acquisition of rights to exploit the broadcasting of football matches included in a competition organised by the specified competition organiser, and
- (b) it is not revenue that the specified competition organiser distributes to a club by virtue of a team operated by the club being relegated from a competition organised by the specified competition organiser.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the other amendments to clause 62 in the name of Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay, prohibit parachute payments from being included in the distributions of revenue resolution procedure.

Clause 57

LORD BIRT
LORD THOMAS OF CWMGIEDD
LORD PANNICK
LORD BURNS

- 58 Clause 57, page 47, line 5, leave out “following conditions” and insert “conditions in subsections (3) to (6)”

LORD BIRT
LORD THOMAS OF CWMGIEDD
LORD PANNICK
LORD BURNS

- 59 Clause 57, page 47, line 6, at end insert –

- “(b) that specified competition organiser has not already made an application to the IFR under subsection (1) within the last 5 years,
- (c) the specified competition organiser has not agreed with the other specified competition organiser to exclude the effect of subsection (1) and the resolution process (and for that purpose a specified competition organiser may agree with another specified competition organiser to exclude the effect of subsection (1) and the resolution process for a period of up to 5 years),
- (d) where the specified competition organiser has, with the prior written approval of the IFR, agreed with the other specified competition organiser to modify the effect of subsection (1) and the terms of the resolution process as between them for a period of up to 10 years, the application under subsection (1) is consistent with that agreement, and
- (e) the latest version of the state of the game report was published at least 60 days before the date of the specified competition organiser’s application.”

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

- 60★ Clause 57, page 47, line 32, leave out “five years” and insert “the applicable period (see subsections (7) and (8))”

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

- 61★ Clause 57, page 47, line 35, at end insert –

“(7) Where –

- (a) the specified competition organisers have agreed (whether in the distribution agreement or otherwise) a period for the purposes of condition 4, and

(b) both of the organisers have notified the IFR of the period so agreed, the applicable period is that period.

(8) In any other case, the applicable period is five years.”

Clause 59

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

62 Clause 59, page 48, line 34, at end insert “, and

(c) considers that the question or questions for resolution could not be resolved within a reasonable period of time by the IFR exercising any of its other functions under this Act.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the IFR to consider whether the question or questions for resolution could be resolved by the IFR exercising any of its other functions before deciding to trigger the resolution process.

BARONESS TWYXCROSS
LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON
BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON

63 Clause 59, page 49, line 8, at end insert “, and

(iii) any findings in the IFR’s most recent state of the game report that the IFR considers relevant to the question or questions for resolution.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the IFR to include in the notice under clause 59(5) the findings in its most recent state of the game report that it considers relevant to the question or questions for resolution.

LORD BIRT
LORD THOMAS OF CWMGIEDD
LORD PANNICK
LORD BURNS

64 Clause 59, page 49, line 8, at end insert –

“(5A) If the IFR is required to update the state of the game report under section 10(5), the IFR shall notify the specified competition organisers as to its expected timeframe for publishing the updated state of the game report.”

LORD BIRT
LORD THOMAS OF CWMGIEDD
LORD PANNICK
LORD BURNS

- 65 Clause 59, page 49, line 13, at end insert “, but if the IFR is required to update the state of the game report under section 10(5), the IFR’s deadline shall be within the period of 60 days from the publication date of the updated state of the game report”

Clause 60

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

- 66 Clause 60, page 50, line 6, at end insert –
- “(6A) The IFR must extend the period in subsection (6)(b) –
- (a) if requested in writing to do so by the mediator, and
 - (b) by such period as is set out in the request, which may be up to a further 28 days.
- (6B) The period in subsection (6)(b) may only be extended once.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the IFR to extend the mediation period by up to a further 28 days if requested to do so by the mediator.

LORD BIRT
LORD THOMAS OF CWMGIEDD
LORD PANNICK
LORD BURNS

- 67★ Leave out Clause 60 and insert the following new Clause –
- “Appointment of the panel and mediation process**
- (1) This section applies where the IFR gives a notice under section 59(5).
 - (2) Within 14 days of the IFR issuing a notice under section 59(5) –
 - (a) the IFR must nominate an individual to act as the chair (the “Chair”) of a three-person panel (the “Panel”), and
 - (b) the two specified competition organisers to which the section 59(5) notice was given may each nominate one individual to sit on the Panel.
 - (c)
 - (3) If a specified competition organiser fails to nominate a Panel member in time, then the IFR will make the nomination itself as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.
 - (4) The Panel’s powers are set out in this section and section (*The Panel’s distribution order*).

- (5) The Panel shall first facilitate the mediation process set out in subsections (11) to (14) below.
- (6) The Chair shall lead the mediation process with the assistance of the two other Panel members (but the Panel is not an arbitral tribunal for the purposes of the Arbitration Act 1996).
- (7) If that process does not resolve the matter, then the Panel must make a distribution order under section (*The Panel's distribution order*).
- (8) The Chair of the Panel must—
 - (a) be a qualified solicitor or barrister in England and Wales with more than 15 years' post-call or post-qualification experience,
 - (b) have previous experience of acting as a mediator, and
 - (c) have significant experience in sports law or competition law.
- (9) All members of the Panel must—
 - (a) have appropriate skills and experience,
 - (b) be independent of the party appointing them, the other specified competition organiser, and the IFR,
 - (c) be able to render an impartial decision, and
 - (d) complete a statement of independence and impartiality in such form as the IFR may require from time to time before acting as a Panel member.
- (10) The IFR may extend the period in subsection (2) by up to a further 14 days if it considers there are special reasons for doing so.
- (11) The Panel shall mediate negotiations between the specified competition organisers to resolve the question or questions for resolution until whichever of the following events occurs first—
 - (a) the specified competition organisers resolve the question or questions for resolution (whether by entering into a distribution agreement or otherwise),
or
 - (b) the end of the period of 85 days from the day on which the Panel is fully constituted (the "Resolution Period").
- (12) The Panel shall have discretion to facilitate discussions between the specified competition organisers as it sees fit, provided that the following steps are mandatory—
 - (a) the specified competition organisers must submit their initial written proposals for resolving the question or questions to the Panel by day 7 of the Resolution Period,
 - (b) the specified competition organisers must submit their first final proposals for resolving the question or questions to the Panel by day 50 of the Resolution Period,
 - (c) the specified competition organisers must submit their final proposals for resolving the question or questions to the Panel by day 75 of the Resolution Period,

- (d) by day 85 of the Resolution Period, the specified competition organisers must decide whether to agree to one of the parties' final proposals or another mutually acceptable arrangement, and
 - (e) if the specified competition organisers do not agree to a settlement under paragraph (d), the Panel must proceed to determine the remaining question or questions for resolution itself under section (*The Panel's distribution order*).
- (13) During the mediation process, the Panel must –
- (a) facilitate good faith discussions between the relevant competition organisers,
 - (b) in plenary sessions, interrogate each competition organiser's initial, first final, and final proposals against the criteria in section (*The Panel's distribution order*)(3),
 - (c) encourage the specified competition organisers to discuss issues in the latest state of the game report,
 - (d) provide recommendations to the relevant competition organisers for resolving the questions for resolution,
 - (e) procure that all parties maintain the confidentiality of all commercially sensitive information,
 - (f) give equal opportunity to all relevant competition organisers to present proposals,
 - (g) focus on achieving mutually acceptable solutions, and
 - (h) keep confidential any information privately communicated by any specified competition organiser to the Panel during the mediation process, and not share it with any other person without the prior written consent of the relevant specified competition organiser.
- (14) The Panel may –
- (a) extend the Resolution Period once by up to 30 days where all parties agree or the Panel considers in its sole discretion that substantial progress towards agreement is being made,
 - (b) require the specified competition organisers to attend meetings in person or virtually,
 - (c) appoint independent experts to provide analysis on the questions for resolution, and
 - (d) permit the specified competition organisers to make submissions, provide evidence, or adduce expert evidence, as it sees fit.”

Clause 61

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

Clause 61, page 50, line 27, leave out from beginning to “require” in line 28 and insert “Where a notice under subsection (3) sets out a question for resolution that relates to relegation revenue (within the meaning given by section 62(3)), the notice must”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires specified competition organisers to include in their final proposal the explanation described in clause 61(5) where there is a question for resolution that relates to relegation revenue.

BARONESS BRADY

- 69★ Clause 61, page 50, line 30, leave out “relegated from” and insert “in”

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

- 70 Clause 61, page 50, line 31, at end insert –

“(5A) Where the Secretary of State has specified in regulations under section 56(2)(b) that relevant revenue may include relegation revenue, a final proposal under this section must not propose the prohibition of a specified competition organiser distributing relegation revenue to regulated clubs.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment prohibits a final proposal from abolishing parachute payments.

BARONESS BRADY

- 71★ Clause 61, page 50, line 31, at end insert –

“(5A) A notice under subsection (3) must require the specified competition organisers to set out in their final proposal how any relevant revenue distributed through a distribution order under section 62 should be used by recipient clubs, and how such use will directly further the primary principle of the IFR, namely to protect and promote the sustainability of English football.”

LORD BIRT
LORD THOMAS OF CWMGIEDD
LORD PANNICK
LORD BURNS

- 72 Leave out Clause 61 and insert the following new Clause –

“The Panel’s distribution order

- (1) If the matter is not fully resolved by day 85 of the Resolution Period, any unresolved questions shall be referred to, and finally resolved by, the Panel as follows –
- (a) the Panel shall notify the specified competition organisers that it is proceeding with the determination process on the first day after the end of the Resolution Period,

- (b) the Panel shall comprise the same individuals appointed under section (*Appointment of the panel and mediation process*)(2),
 - (c) the Chair shall have discretion to determine the procedure for the Panel’s determination process,
 - (d) the Panel shall use its best endeavours to issue a determination on all unresolved questions within 14 days of its notice under subsection (1)(a), and
 - (e) the Panel shall provide full written reasons for its determination.
- (2) The Panel shall make a distribution order that requires the relevant revenue to be distributed in accordance with—
- (a) one specified competition organiser’s final proposal in full,
 - (b) part of one specified competition organiser’s final proposal,
 - (c) part of both specified competition organisers’ final proposals, or
 - (d) the Panel’s own determination on the questions for resolution where the Panel considers that neither competition organiser’s final proposal is wholly consistent with the principles in subsection (3).
- (3) The Panel’s distribution order must—
- (a) advance the IFR’s objectives,
 - (b) not place an undue burden on the commercial interests of either specified competition organiser,
 - (c) not allow a lower amount of relegation revenue to be distributed to a club during the relevant period than would have been distributed to the club during that period had the resolution process not occurred—
 - “relegation revenue” means revenue distributed by a specified competition organiser to a club in consequence of a team operated by the club being relegated from a specified competition organised by the specified competition organiser, and
 - “relevant period”, in relation to a final proposal, means the period of one year beginning with the final day of the first football season in respect of which relegation revenue would be distributed in pursuance of any distribution order made in accordance with the final proposal,
 - (d) address the evidence set out in the latest state of the game report, including in relation to—
 - (i) the circumstances affecting the health and effectiveness of clubs in major football leagues around the world, and
 - (ii) the position of the English leagues in relation to football leagues in other nations,
 - (e) maintain the international competitiveness and appeal of English football,
 - (f) promote growth and investor confidence across the English professional football game,
 - (g) not adversely affect the competitive balance in individual leagues,
 - (h) not adversely affect the competitive balance across the leagues, nor prevent well-managed clubs from rising up the football pyramid,

- (i) not adversely affect the ability of clubs to move between leagues by promotion or relegation without risking financial instability and unfair competition,
 - (j) ensure long-term investment in stadia, facilities and youth development,
 - (k) have regard to the contribution intended to be made by the specified competition organisers to the wider football community, and
 - (l) have regard to the purpose to which a specified competition organiser will put any relevant revenue that it will receive by way of distribution.
- (4) The Panel shall have the power to award that all or part of the legal or other expenses incurred in relation to the resolution process by a specified competition organiser, the Panel, and the IFR must be paid by another specified competition organiser.
- (5) The Panel shall decide the amount of such costs on such reasonable basis as it thinks appropriate, provided that it must have regard to—
- (a) each relevant competition organiser’s conduct during the resolution process,
 - (b) the extent to which each specified competition organiser genuinely attempted to resolve the questions in dispute, their level of co-operation in facilitating the resolution process, and their compliance with any requests made by the Panel during the resolution process, and
 - (c) any delay or failure to engage in the resolution process in any respect.”

Clause 62

BARONESS BRADY

- 73★** Clause 62, page 51, line 9, leave out from “with” to end of line 11 and insert “the proposal made by the specified competition organiser whose relevant revenue would be distributed under the proposal, unless there are compelling reasons not to do so;”

BARONESS BRADY

- 74★** Clause 62, page 51, line 22, leave out paragraph (b) and insert—
- “(b) recognises and has particular regard to the fact that the distribution of relevant revenue constitutes a prima facie interference in the property rights of the distributor, and”

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

- 75** Clause 62, page 51, line 24, leave out paragraph (c)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the other amendments to clauses 56 and 62 in the name of Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay, prohibit parachute payments from being included in the distributions of revenue resolution procedure.

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

76 Clause 62, page 51, line 29, leave out subsection (3)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the other amendments to clauses 56 and 62 in the name of Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay, prohibit parachute payments from being included in the distributions of revenue resolution procedure.

LORD BIRT
LORD THOMAS OF CWMGIEDD
LORD PANNICK
LORD BURNS

77 Leave out Clause 62 and insert the following new Clause –

“Appeals

- (1) A specified competition organiser may appeal the Panel’s distribution order by sending a notice of appeal to the Chair of the IFR within 10 days of the date of the Panel’s determination.
- (2) The appeal shall be heard in private by a three-person arbitral tribunal seated in England and Wales (the “Appeal Tribunal”).
- (3) Within 14 days of the notice of appeal –
 - (a) the Chair of the IFR shall nominate an individual, who holds, or has held, high judicial office within the meaning of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005, to act as chair of the Appeal Tribunal,
 - (b) the two specified competition organisers may each nominate one arbitrator to the Appeal Tribunal, and
 - (c) if a specified competition organiser fails to nominate an arbitrator in time, then the IFR will make the nomination itself as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.
- (4) The only grounds for an appeal of the Panel’s determination are that it was –
 - (a) based on an error of law,
 - (b) reached as result of procedural errors that have caused, or will cause, substantial injustice to the applicant, or
 - (c) a decision that no Panel who had applied their minds properly to the facts of the case could reasonably have reached.
- (5) The Appeal Tribunal shall have the power to –

- (a) allow the appeal,
 - (b) dismiss the appeal,
 - (c) vary or discharge the Panel's distribution order,
 - (d) order a party to pay or contribute to the costs of the appeal including the Appeal Tribunal's fees and expenses, and
 - (e) make such other order as it thinks fit.
- (6) The chair of the Appeal Tribunal shall decide all procedural and evidential matters for the appeal.
- (7) The Appeal Tribunal must use its best endeavours to issue its final award within 45 days of the notice of appeal.
- (8) Subject to the provisions of sections 67 to 71 of the Arbitration Act 1996, or any re-enactment or amendment for the time being in force, the Appeal Tribunal's award shall be final and binding on the specified competition organisers and the IFR.
- (9) There shall be no right of appeal on a point of law under section 69 of the Arbitration Act 1996.
- (10) The Secretary of State may by regulations amend subsections (1) to (9) to make new rules to govern the conduct of appeals of distribution orders."

Schedule 9

BARONESS TWYLCROSS

78 Schedule 9, page 116, line 13, leave out sub-paragraph (3)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes the definition of "Bank of England base rate" in order for it to be moved to the definitions clause.

Schedule 10

BARONESS TWYLCROSS

79 Schedule 10, page 117, line 36, column 1, leave out from "the" to "mentioned" in line 37 and insert "taking of any step"

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment to clause 46 at line 39.

After Clause 85

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY

80★ After Clause 85, insert the following new Clause –

“Armorial bearings

Nothing in this Act is to be read with prejudice to the powers of the Kings of Arms in regard to armorial bearings.”

After Clause 89

LORD MAUDE OF HORSHAM

81 After Clause 89, insert the following new Clause –

“Review: cost of compliance

Within one year of the day on which section 15 of this Act comes into force, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a review of the financial impact on regulated clubs of complying with the provisions in this Act.”

Clause 91

LORD MOYNIHAN

82 Clause 91, page 73, line 39, at end insert –

“(aa) section 2(3A)”

LORD ADDINGTON

83★ Clause 91, page 73, line 40, at end insert –

“(iia) section (*Social responsibility duty*);”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would make regulations related to the social responsibility duty created by the amendment after Clause 51 in the name of Lord Addington subject to the affirmative procedure.

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

84 Clause 91, page 74, line 1, leave out paragraph (iii)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the other amendments to clauses 56 and 62 in the name of Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay, prohibits parachute payments from being included in the distributions of revenue resolution procedure.

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

85 Clause 91, page 74, line 12, leave out subsection (5)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes the de-hybridising provision for statutory instruments.

Clause 92

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

86 Clause 92, page 74, line 19, at end insert –

““Bank of England base rate” means –

- (a) the percentage rate announced from time to time by the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England as the official dealing rate, being the rate at which the Bank is willing to enter into transactions for providing short term liquidity in the money markets, or
- (b) where an order under section 19 of the Bank of England Act 1998 is in force, any equivalent percentage rate determined by the Treasury under that section;”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, together with an amendment to paragraph 13 of Schedule 9, moves the definition of “Bank of England base rate” into the overarching definitions clause from Schedule 9.

BARONESS TWYXCROSS
LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

87 Clause 92, page 75, line 15, leave out paragraph (a)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes the Secretary of State’s power to amend the definition of “football season”.

Schedule 11

BARONESS TWYXCROSS

88 Schedule 11, page 119, line 8, at end insert –

“Bank of England base rate section 92(1)”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment inserts a cross-reference to the definition of “Bank of England base rate” into the table in Schedule 11 of defined terms used in more than one place.

BARONESS TWYCCROSS

89 Schedule 11, page 120, line 30, at end insert –

“relegation revenue section 62(3)”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment to clause 61 at line 27 and it adds the defined term “relegation revenue” to the table in Schedule 11 of defined terms used in more than one place.

After Clause 95

BARONESS TWYCCROSS
BARONESS TAYLOR OF BOLTON
LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON

90 After Clause 95, insert the following new Clause –

“Review of Act

- (1) The Secretary of State must –
 - (a) carry out a review of the operation and effect of this Act,
 - (b) set out the conclusions of the review in a report,
 - (c) publish the report, and
 - (d) lay a copy of the report before Parliament.
- (2) The report must be published before the end of the period of five years beginning with the day on which section 15 comes fully into force.
- (3) The report must, in particular –
 - (a) assess the extent to which the objectives intended to be achieved by this Act have been achieved,
 - (b) assess whether those objectives remain appropriate and, if so, the extent to which they could be achieved more effectively in any other way (for example if the IFR could delegate its functions to persons other than those listed in paragraph 17(1) of Schedule 2),
 - (c) assess the impact of this Act and the IFR’s actions on football in England and Wales,
 - (d) assess the interaction between this Act and the rules, requirements and restrictions imposed by competition organisers and whether that interaction is appropriate, and

- (e) assess whether the appropriate competitions are specified under section 2(3), including whether a competition that is not specified should be specified.
- 25 (4) In carrying out the review, the Secretary of State must have regard to—
- (a) the purpose of the Act (see section 1);
 - (b) the IFR’s objectives (see section 6);
 - (c) the IFR’s general duties (see section 7);
 - (d) the IFR’s regulatory principles (see section 8);
 - 30 (e) any state of the game report published by the IFR (see section 10);
 - (f) any annual report submitted to the Secretary of State by the IFR (see section 14).
- (5) Before publishing the report, the Secretary of State must prepare a draft report and consult the following about the draft report—
- 35 (a) the IFR,
- (b) the Football Association,
- (c) each specified competition organiser, and
- (d) such other persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.”

Member's explanatory statement

The amendment requires the Secretary of State to carry out a review of the Act and publish and lay before Parliament a report setting out the conclusions of that review.

LORD GOODMAN OF WYCOMBE

As an amendment to Amendment 90

- 91★ In subsection (1)(a), leave out “carry out” and insert “commission”

LORD GOODMAN OF WYCOMBE

As an amendment to Amendment 90

- 92★ In subsection (1)(c), after “report” insert “on the GOV.UK website”

LORD GOODMAN OF WYCOMBE

As an amendment to Amendment 90

- 93★ After subsection (1) insert—

“(1A) The review must be undertaken by an independent review panel.

(1B) The panel under subsection (1A) must consist of—

- (a) at least one person with expertise in competition law,
- (b) at least one person with expertise in regulatory policy,
- (c) at least one person with expertise in football administration, and
- (d) at least one person with expertise in business regulation.”

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

As an amendment to Amendment 90

94 After subsection (3)(e) insert –

“(f) assess the impact of this Act and the operations of the IFR on ticket prices.”

Clause 99

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD MARKHAM

95 Clause 99, page 78, line 13, at end insert –

“(2A) The Secretary of State may only make regulations for Part 3 to come into effect at the end of a relevant football season.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment states the regulator can only implement the licensing regime at the end of a football season.

Football Governance Bill [HL]

MARSHALLED
LIST OF AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
ON REPORT

7 March 2025

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