To the member associations of FIFA

Circular no. 1218

Zurich, 15 February 2010
SG/mmv

Olympic Football Tournaments, London 2012 – Men’s and Women’s Tournaments

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that the Games of the XXX Olympiad, London 2012 will take place from 27 July – 12 August 2012. Both the Men’s (16 teams) and Women’s (12 teams) Olympic Football Tournaments will form part of these games, and a preliminary competition will be held in each confederation to determine the participants.

Furthermore, as confirmed at the 59th FIFA Congress held in Nassau, Bahamas on 2-3 June 2009, an Olympic Football Working Group was established and met in Zurich on 24 November 2009 to discuss the age eligibility criteria for the Men’s Olympic Football Tournament. Based on the Olympic Football Working Group’s recommendation, the FIFA Executive Committee, at its meeting on Robben Island on 3 December 2009, unanimously agreed to maintain the same age eligibility criteria for the Men’s Olympic Football Tournament London 2012 that were applied in Beijing in 2008 – namely limiting eligibility to under-23 players, with the exception of including up to three over-23 players on the team for the final competition.

Therefore, we would like to take this opportunity to invite the member associations of FIFA to enter the men’s and women’s competitions by filling in and returning the attached entry form to FIFA by Friday, 12 March 2010 at the latest. Entries made by fax must be confirmed by officially sending in the original entry form. Entry is free of charge.

In addition, we would appreciate you taking note of the following information:

1. It is only possible for a member association to enter its respective men’s or women’s team into the preliminary competition for the Olympic Football Tournaments, London 2012 if its National Olympic Committee is officially recognised or in the process of being recognised by the International Olympic Committee.

2. To be eligible for participation in the Olympic Games, players competing in the Men’s and Women’s Olympic Football Tournaments must comply with Rule 41 “Eligibility Code” as well as with Bye-Law to Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter, as outlined in the attached document.
3. All players participating in the preliminary and final competition of the Men’s Olympic Football Tournament London 2012 shall be born on or after 1 January 1989, with the exception of a maximum of three players who do not meet this age limit who may also be included in the official list of players for the final competition.

4. There are no age restrictions for the players participating in the Women’s Olympic Football Tournament London 2012.

We hope that this information will be of use to you. Further details regarding the eligibility of players in the Men’s and Women’s Olympic Football Tournaments as well as on the allocation of slots per confederation for the final competition will be communicated to you in due course.

Yours faithfully,
FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Jerome Valcke
Secretary General

Enclosures
➢ Entry Form
➢ Copy of Rule 41 and Bye-Law to Rule 41 of the Olympic Charter

CC:
➢ FIFA Executive Committee
➢ FIFA Organising Committee for the Olympic Football Tournaments
➢ IOC
➢ LOCOG
➢ Confederations
OLYMPIC FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS
LONDON 2012

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION

English

OLYMPIC FOOTBALL TOURNAMENTS, LONDON 2012 – PRELIMINARY COMPETITION

Member association

herewith undertakes to participate in the preliminary competitions for the

☐ Men’s Olympic Football Tournament
☐ Women’s Olympic Football Tournament

Name and function

Place and date

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO FIFA BY FRIDAY 12 MARCH 2010.

French

TOURNOIS OLYMPIQUES DE FOOTBALL, LONDRES 2012 – COMPÉTITION PRÉLIMINAIRE

Association membre

s’engage par la présente à participer à la compétition préliminaire pour le

☐ Tournoi Olympique de Football Masculin
☐ Tournoi Olympique de Football Féminin

Nom et fonction

Lieu et date

VEUillez retourner ce formulaire à la FIFA jusqu’au vendredi, 12 mars 2010.
Bye-law to Rule 39

1. The Olympic Village shall meet all requirements as established by the IOC Executive Board.

2. The quotas for team officials and other team personnel accommodated in the Olympic Village shall be established by the IOC Executive Board.

3. Should the IOC authorise the OCOG to hold events in any location other than in the host city, the OCOG may be required to provide appropriate accommodations, services and facilities in accordance with requirements established by the IOC Executive Board.

4. The OCOG shall bear all expenses for board and lodging of competitors, team officials and other team personnel in the Olympic Village and other accommodations as required above, as well as their local transport expenses.

Cultural Programme

The OCOG shall organise a programme of cultural events which must cover at least the entire period during which the Olympic Village is open. Such programme shall be submitted to the IOC Executive Board for its prior approval.

II. PARTICIPATION IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Eligibility Code*

To be eligible for participation in the Olympic Games, a competitor, coach, trainer or other team official must comply with the Olympic Charter as well as with the rules of the IF concerned as approved by the IOC, and the competitor, coach, trainer or other team official must be entered by his NOC. The above-noted persons must notably:
- respect the spirit of fair play and non violence, and behave accordingly; and
- respect and comply in all aspects with the World Anti-Doping Code.

Bye-law to Rule 41

1. Each IF establishes its sport's own eligibility criteria in accordance with the Olympic Charter. Such criteria must be submitted to the IOC Executive Board for approval.

2. The application of the eligibility criteria lies with the IFs, their affiliated national federations and the NOCs in the fields of their respective responsibilities.

3. Except as permitted by the IOC Executive Board, no competitor, coach, trainer or official who particpates in the Olympic Games may allow his person, name, picture or sports performances to be used for advertising purposes during the Olympic Games.

4. The entry or participation of a competitor in the Olympic Games shall not be conditional on any financial consideration.

Nationality of Competitors*

1. Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the NOC which is entering such competitor.

2. All disputes relating to the determination of the country which a competitor may represent in the Olympic Games shall be resolved by the IOC Executive Board.