To the members of FIFA

Circular no. 1220

Zurich, 17 February 2010
SG/jmb-mac

FIFA Beach Soccer Pitch Programme

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that FIFA has successfully launched the Beach Soccer Pitch Programme to support its member associations in the development of beach soccer. Below you will find details of the programme and the criteria for approving an application for beach soccer equipment.

1. Description/content

The Beach Soccer Pitch Programme was introduced to address the increasing popularity of beach soccer in FIFA’s member associations. The set that is provided as part of the programme is made up of the basic equipment required in order to play beach soccer in line with the Laws of the Game, i.e. goal posts, nets, lines and flags for the pitch as well as beach soccer balls.

2. Financial arrangements

FIFA will assume the cost of the equipment as well as international transport costs for its delivery. If local transport costs, customs duties or other fees arise in connection with the delivery of the equipment, these must be borne by the member association concerned.

3. Criteria for approval

a) The FIFA Beach Soccer Pitch Programme is aimed exclusively at member associations that already have a proven commitment to beach soccer. This commitment can take the form of participation in the qualifiers for a FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup or the organisation of a beach soccer championship or regular tournaments, among other things. In addition, beach soccer-related social activities with sponsors and authorities will also be taken into account in the assessment. Consequently, the application for a beach soccer set has to be in direct connection with such a commitment and include a detailed description of it.

b) To have an application for participation in the FIFA Beach Soccer Pitch Programme approved, the association must have a beach soccer development plan in place and incorporated into the association’s general long-term development plan. This plan must be enclosed with the application.
c) Furthermore, the association must submit a plan for the proposed use of the beach soccer equipment, from which it is clear that the equipment will be used regularly and specifying the activities for which it will be used.

d) To complete the application file, a questionnaire must be filled out, which the Education & Technical Development Department or any of the FIFA Development Offices will be happy to send in electronic format on request.

4. Additional information on the FIFA Beach Soccer Pitch Programme

In addition to the Beach Soccer Pitch Programme, FIFA organises training courses for coaches and referees in the member associations. These courses can be held at the same time to facilitate an exchange between the participants of the two courses, in which case FIFA will appoint two instructors: one for the coaches and one for the referees. You will find all the relevant information on the FIFA courses as well as the respective application forms in the FIFA course catalogue.

FIFA also organises regional seminars with a view to providing participating member associations with useful knowledge on the development of beach soccer as well as a platform for the exchange of ideas and experiences. FIFA intends to hold these seminars worldwide. Member associations will receive invitations to the corresponding seminar in due course.

We hope that you will find this programme and the related activities useful, and look forward to a high level of demand. The Education & Technical Development Department and the FIFA Development Offices will be pleased to answer any questions you may have in this connection.

Yours faithfully,
FIFA

Jérôme Valcke
Secretary General

cc: - Confederations
    - Executive Committee
    - Development Offices