To the members of FIFA and the confederations

Circular no. 1270

Zurich, 21 July 2011
SG/mca

Amendments to the FIFA Disciplinary Code

Dear Sir or Madam,

We wish to draw your attention to the following amendments that were made to the FIFA Disciplinary Code (FDC) during the FIFA Executive Committee meeting in Zurich, Switzerland, on 30 May 2011.

The amendments to the FDC concern mainly grammatical adaptations in the case of the English and French versions as well as an adaptation of the FDC to the jurisprudence. Some amendments to the content of the FDC were also adopted, in particular the following:

Art. 61 of the FDC

As it might sometimes not be possible to identify the natural person that committed an act of forgery, the new FDC now gives the FIFA Disciplinary Committee the possibility to sanction the association or the club held liable for an act of forgery committed by one of its officials and/or players.

Art. 64 of the FDC

Besides an adaptation to the jurisprudence in regard to the fine, the range of application of art. 64 of the FDC concerning the enforcement of decisions rendered by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) is now exclusively limited to those cases that had previously been dealt with by a body or a committee of FIFA.

Furthermore, in view of the fact that not only natural persons and clubs but also member associations may be considered as offenders, the new FDC now has an explicit provision applicable to associations.

Finally, in order to extend the responsibility for enforcing decisions to the associations, a provision has been added to the FDC, according to which the association of the deciding body shall bear the responsibility for enforcing any financial or non-financial decision that has been pronounced against a club by a court of arbitration within the relevant association or by a National Dispute Resolution Chamber (NDRC), both of which must be duly recognised.
by FIFA. The same principle applies to a financial or non-financial decision pronounced against a natural person, with the slight but crucial difference that should the natural person be registered (or otherwise have signed a contract in the case of a coach) with a club affiliated to another association in the meantime, the new association shall bear the responsibility for enforcing the pertinent decision.

Procedure before the FIFA Appeal Committee

Finally, the FDC has been amended in such a way that the proceedings before the FIFA Appeal Committee may be undertaken – where appropriate – in a more expedited manner (cf. new art. 120 par. 4 and art. 123 par. 1 of the FDC), as for example during final tournaments.

The new FIFA Disciplinary Code will take effect on 1 August 2011.

Thank you for your kind attention to the foregoing.

Yours faithfully,

Fédération Internationale
De Football Association

Jérôme Valcke
Secretary General

Encl. FIFA Disciplinary Code

Cc: FIFA Executive Committee
FIFA Disciplinary Committee
FIFA Appeal Committee
CAS