TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1447

Zurich, 17 October 2014
SG/dko-sma

FIFA Ballon d'Or 2014

Dear General Secretary,

We write to inform you that a number of awards will again be presented to the most-deserving figures from the world of football, on the evening of 12 January 2015 in Zurich.

The player voted best in men’s football will be awarded the FIFA Ballon d’Or, while the best female player will be presented with the FIFA Women’s World Player of the Year trophy. Awards for men’s and women’s coaches of the year will also be presented.

In order to obtain equal representation, we kindly ask you to ensure the participation of your member association in the voting process for the FIFA Ballon d’Or 2014.

Voting will commence in the week beginning 28 October 2014, to be completed by 21 November 2014 at the latest. All votes must be cast on time in order to be taken into consideration – any votes received after 21 November will not be included or count towards the final results. For your convenience, the voting will again be completed online for all member associations. All member associations will receive an e-mail with the link to access the voting platform on the day the voting opens.

Please be aware that votes will not be formally recognised until the voting form has been signed and completed by the coach and captain of your men’s and women’s national teams, and sent back to FIFA. It should also be noted that all votes, as well as abstentions, will be made public following the FIFA Ballon d’Or show. Your cooperation in ensuring the coaches and captains of your association meet this deadline is greatly appreciated.
Information on the voting process:

- The Football Committee, along with experts from France Football, will select a shortlist of 23 male players for the FIFA Ballon d'Or, ten men's football coaches for the World Coach of the Year for Men's Football, and ten women's football coaches for the World Coach of the Year for Women's Football.

- The Committee for Women's Football and the FIFA Women's World Cup™, along with experts from France Football, will select a shortlist of ten female players for the Women's World Player of the Year, ten men's football coaches for the World Coach of the Year for Men's Football, and ten women's football coaches for the World Coach of the Year for Women's Football.

- Coaches and captains choose their top three personal favourites from each of the lists supplied.

- The selection criteria for the players of the year (men's and women's) are: sporting performance as well as general behaviour on and off the pitch from 30 November 2013 until 21 November 2014.

- The selection criteria for the coaches of the year are: sporting performance and general behaviour both on and off the pitch from 30 November 2013 until 21 November 2014.

- Media representatives (different for men's and women's football) also take part in the vote, with their votes accounting for one third of the final result. The votes from national team coaches and captains will also account for a third each.

Thank you very much for your valuable cooperation in making the FIFA Ballon d'Or a major success.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the FIFA Special Events & Guest Management Department at FIFABallondOr2014@fifa.org

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Jérôme Valcke
Secretary General

cc: - FIFA Executive Committee
    - Confedérations