TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA

Circular no. 959

Zurich, 16 March 2005
GS/hta/gmo

FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players

Dear Madam/Sir,

At its meeting held in Zurich on 18 and 19 December 2004 the FIFA Executive Committee adopted the reviewed Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players. These Regulations will enter into force on 1 July 2005. We are pleased to send you herewith the text of these Regulations. Please be advised that the Regulations are also available in all four official languages on the official FIFA website (www.FIFA.com).

The Regulations are presented in a new layout with a user-friendlier structure and comprise a main set of rules as well as five technical annexes. The various circular letters that since the entry into force of the edition 2001 of the Regulations have completed the transfer rules, have been integrated. At the same time, the principles agreed with the EU Commission on 5 March 2001 have been maintained and have been duly incorporated in the text.

Some new formal and material elements have been included, in order to ameliorate the Regulations, such as a list of the most recurrent definitions, a title to every article and as far as the jurisdiction is concerned, a clear description of the competences of both the Players’ Status Committee and the Dispute Resolution Chamber. Moreover, based on the positive experiences gained with the Single Judge of the Players’ Status Committee, also at the level of the Dispute Resolution Chamber two so-called DRC Judges will be installed.

With respect to the training compensation, the current system has been maintained, i.e. each member association is asked to allocate its affiliated club into categories in accordance with the club’s financial investment in training young players. Attached to this circular letter you will find a table for each confederation, setting out the categories in which each association is asked to allocate its clubs as well as the training costs, which are established on a confederation basis for each category of clubs.

You are required to allocate your clubs in the categories that are indicated in the table. No allocation will be required if all your clubs fall under category 4. The categorisation of clubs will be reviewed at the end of every calendar year. The various training costs as well as the categorisation of clubs for each association will be published on the FIFA website.

You are kindly asked to communicate the categorisation of your clubs to FIFA by 15 April 2005 at the latest. If we do not receive your reply, category 4 will apply to all calculations involving one of your affiliated clubs until the end of December 2005, when the categorisation will be reviewed.
Moreover, all associations are also asked to communicate **by 15 April 2005** their dates chosen for the two registration periods per year, in accordance with art. 6 of the reviewed Regulations. If no response is received from your association, FIFA will determine the dates for your association. Once more, we wish to emphasise that the implementation of the registration periods is an indispensable and integral requirement for the functioning of the Regulations and, in consequence, we must insist on the implementation of this rule.

Still in the first part of this year, FIFA will furthermore issue a set of procedural rules that will apply to both the Players’ Status Committee and the Dispute Resolution Chamber. Additionally, a manual describing in simple terms and diagrams the Regulations as well as the legal procedures in front of the FIFA bodies will be published.

Finally, we would like to inform you that during the coming months our organization is planning to hold a number of information seminars at confederation level for all member associations at which the Regulations will be explained in greater depth and all relevant questions surrounding the reviewed text can be clarified. Detailed information regarding the date and the venue of the seminars will be communicated in due course.

We thank you for your kind attention to the above and remain at your full disposal for any further information that you may require.

Yours faithfully,

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Urs Linsi
General Secretary

cc: FIFA Executive Committee
Players’ Status Committee
Dispute Resolution Chamber
Confederations

encl. as mentioned