

**TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA**

Circular no. 1590

Zurich, 7 July 2017

SG/dnu

**The Best FIFA Football Awards**

Dear General Secretary,

The second edition of "The Best FIFA Football Awards" will be staged in London on 23 October 2017 and will recognise football's top performers of 2017.

The player voted best in men's football will receive "The Best FIFA Men's Player" award, while the best female player will be presented with "The Best FIFA Women's Player" award. Awards for men's and women's coaches of the year will also be presented.

In order to have equal representation in the voting process, we would ask you to ensure the participation of your member association in the voting for The Best FIFA Football Awards 2017.

**Voting will commence in the week beginning 21 August 2017 and conclude on 7 September 2017** at the latest. All votes must be cast on time in order to be taken into consideration – any votes received after 7 September 2017 **will not** be included or count towards the final results. For your convenience, voting will again be conducted **online** for all member associations. All member associations will receive an email 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 coaches and captains 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 Best FIFA Football Awards show. Your cooperation in ensuring the coaches and captains of your association meet this deadline is greatly appreciated.

Information on the voting process:

- ✓ A panel of experts on men's football representing various FIFA and external football stakeholders will compile a shortlist of 23 male players for The Best FIFA Men's Player and ten men's football coaches for The Best FIFA Men's Coach.
- ✓ A panel of experts on women's football representing each of the six confederations will select a shortlist of ten female players for The Best FIFA Women's Player and ten women's football coaches for The Best FIFA Women's Coach.

- Coaches and captains choose their three personal favourites from each of the lists supplied.
- The selection criteria for the men's players of the year are: sporting performance, as well as general conduct on and off the pitch from 20 November 2016 to 2 July 2017.
- The selection criteria for the women's players of the year are: sporting performance, as well as general conduct on and off the pitch from 20 November 2016 to 6 August 2017.
- The selection criteria for the men's football coaches of the year are: performance and general behaviour of their teams on and off the pitch from 20 November 2016 to 2 July 2017.
- The selection criteria for the women's football coaches of the year are: performance and general behaviour of their teams on and off the pitch from 20 November 2016 to 6 August 2017.
- Media representatives (different for men's and women's football) will also take part in the vote.
- Fans registered on FIFA.com can vote for men's and women's football players and coaches provided that any such vote is cast fairly and in accordance with rules of allocation.
- Each of the four groups of voters within a jury has the same electoral weight, irrespective of the actual number of voters in such groups (i.e. the votes of the coaches, of the captains, of the specialist journalists and of the fans shall each make up one quarter of the election, notwithstanding the number of voters in each group).

### **The FIFA Fair Play Award 2017 – voting**

Fair play is a fundamental part of the game of football. It represents the positive benefits of playing by the rules, using common sense and respecting fellow players, referees, opponents and fans. The award is bestowed on a player, a coach, a team, a match official, an individual fan or a fan group in recognition of exemplary fair play either on the pitch or in relation to an official football match during November 2016 to August 2017. The award will be given to the most outstanding "fair-play" gesture/behaviour of the year (an act of fair play either on the pitch or in relation to an official football match – which could also include any amateur league). The winner of the award will be selected by a panel of experts representing various FIFA and external football stakeholders.

### **The FIFA Fan Award 2017 – voting**

The award celebrates the best fan moment of November 2016 to August 2017, regardless of championship, gender or nationality. This could be, for example, for a choreographed display ("tifo") display, chant, or another fan moment that struck a chord with people globally and expressed a special form of commitment and passion for the supported team or football in general. The winner of the award will be selected by a panel of experts representing various FIFA and external football stakeholders.

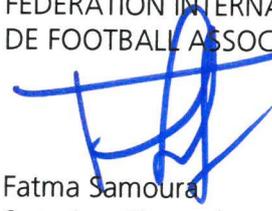
- **Please send us an email with your nominees for The FIFA Fair Play Award 2017 and The FIFA Fan Award 2017 for our consideration by 17 August 2017 at the latest.**

Thank you very much for your valuable cooperation in making the FIFA Football Awards a major success.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the FIFA Corporate Events Department at [ThebestFIFAFootballAwards@fifa.org](mailto:ThebestFIFAFootballAwards@fifa.org).

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Fatma Samoura  
Secretary General

cc: - FIFA Council  
- Confederations