

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1673

Zurich, 28 May 2019
SG/EGS/kop

Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players – categorisation of clubs, registration periods and eligibility

Dear Sir or Madam,

As in previous years, we would refer you to Annexe 4 (in particular art. 4 of Annexe 4) of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (hereinafter: *the Regulations*). We would also refer you to art. 6 pars 1 and 2 of the Regulations. These Regulations address the compensation of clubs for the training of young players, classifying clubs into categories and fixing registration periods in your association.

In this respect, we would also refer you to Annexe 3 of the Regulations, and in particular to art. 5.1 pars 1 and 2. We would emphasise that the international transfer matching system (ITMS) is mandatory for all FIFA member associations. Both the notification of the registration periods fixed by your association as well as the categorisation of clubs that are participating in ITMS, as established by your association, must be noted and recorded in ITMS. For those clubs that are not participating in ITMS (such as purely amateur clubs), notification of categorisation must be conducted by way of written communication to the FIFA Players' Status Department.

Finally, we would remind you of the provision set out in art. 5 par. 3 of the Regulations regarding the maximum number of clubs with which a player may be registered and for which he is eligible to play official matches during one season.

1. Training compensation

With regard to **training compensation**, the Regulations stipulate that each association must classify its clubs into different categories based on the extent of each club's expenditure for the training of young players. The category specified **must be reviewed every year**. The enclosed table shows the categories into which the associations in each confederation are required to divide their clubs and the amount of compensation applicable to the various club categories in each confederation.

Please ensure that, once again, you classify your clubs into the categories shown in the table. FIFA will publish the compensation for training in the various categories and the club classifications of each association on the FIFA website.

Each association is kindly requested to insert the relevant data concerning the categorisation of its affiliated clubs into ITMS **by 1 July 2019**. If the club is not listed in ITMS, then please notify the FIFA Players' Status Department of your club's categorisation in writing (either by email at psdfifa@fifa.org or by regular mail) by 1 July 2019.

Please note that, with respect to clubs that are participating in ITMS, the club categorisation identified in ITMS will prevail over any conflicting categorisation.

In this regard, please be informed that, in the event that you do not complete the relevant categorisation of your affiliated clubs in ITMS by 1 July 2019, your association may be subject to compliance proceedings. We would refer you in particular to the FIFA TMS administrative sanction procedure ("ASP") outlined in FIFA circular no. 1478 of 6 March 2015, notably ASP "D".

2. Registration periods

Each association is kindly requested to insert the two annual **registration periods** that it has fixed for the next calendar year, i.e. as of 1 January 2020, in accordance with art. 6 pars 1 and 2 of the Regulations into ITMS **by 1 July 2019** or, in the event that your association's current season finishes after that date, immediately following the last day of the current season.

Where the start and end dates of the registration periods for female competitions are different from those concerning male competitions, associations may fix different registration periods for their male and female competitions (cf. FIFA circular no. 1601 of 31 October 2017).

Please do not use any other form or means to notify the FIFA Players' Status Department of your association's registration periods. In particular, do not reply in writing to this circular letter. We would remind you that all associations must specify general registration periods, irrespective of the status of your association's affiliated clubs or their transfer activity to date.

According to art. 6 par. 2 in conjunction with art. 5.1 par. 1 of Annexe 3 of the Regulations, the start and end dates of both registration periods and of the season shall be communicated to FIFA via ITMS, separately for male and female players, if applicable, **at least 12 months before they come into force**. Therefore, your association is required to insert into ITMS all applicable registration periods up to the 31 December 2020.

Regarding the timing of the registration periods (for men and women) please note as follows:

- The first registration period shall begin after the completion of the season and shall normally end before the beginning of the new season. This period may not exceed **12 weeks**.
- The second registration period shall normally occur in the middle of the season and may not exceed **four weeks**. When fixing your registration periods, particular attention should be given to their end date. If the end date is a holiday or non-

business day in your country, you will not be able to extend the duration of the relevant registration period to the first subsequent business day if the extension would result in your association exceeding the maximum duration of registration periods (i.e. either 12 weeks or four weeks).

- If you do not define registration periods for female competitions, then registration periods identified for male competitions will apply to female competitions.

In the event that you do not complete the notification procedure of your association's registration periods in ITMS by the above-mentioned deadline (1 July 2019), FIFA itself may set the dates for your association.

We would emphasise that it is the sole responsibility of the TMS manager of each association to make sure that the pertinent and accurate registration periods are properly inserted into the system in accordance with the decisions of his respective association. Only the dates included in ITMS will be considered, irrespective of divergent communications made outside ITMS. Where the registration period has not yet started, and in exceptional circumstances, it is possible to change the date of the registration period. Once a registration period has started, it is not possible to change the period.

Finally, if your association wishes to fix separate registration periods for its purely amateur competitions, i.e. competitions in which only amateurs participate, on the basis of art. 6 par. 4 of the Regulations, it is invited to inform FIFA of the relevant dates by means of a written communication, again no later than **1 July 2019**. Registration periods for purely amateur competitions cannot be entered into ITMS.

3. Maximum number of clubs with which a player may be registered and for which he is eligible to play official matches during one season

The registration of players and the question as to the eligibility of these players to play official matches for their clubs fall under the competence of each association. Attention must be paid to the provisions contained in the Regulations which are binding at national level (cf. art. 1 pars 2 and 3 a) of the Regulations). In accordance with art. 1 par. 3 a) of the Regulations, associations are, *inter alia*, required to include, without modification, art. 5 par. 3 of the Regulations in their own national regulations.

We would remind you that it is the responsibility of each association to ensure that its own national regulations as well as the provisions of the Regulations that are binding at national level are respected and applied uniformly, and that attempts to circumvent them are suppressed accordingly. It remains the relevant association's responsibility to duly consider the sporting integrity of its competitions.

We would draw particular attention to art. 5 par. 3 of the Regulations, which states that players may be registered with a maximum of three clubs during one season and during this period they are only eligible to play official matches for two clubs. Please note that the season to be considered when counting the number of clubs with which a player has already been registered and for which he has played official matches is the season established by the association of the potential new club that wishes to engage the player. As an exception to this rule, a player who is moving between two clubs, where the seasons identified by the associations overlap, may be eligible to play in official matches

for a third club during the relevant season, provided the other conditions stipulated in the provision in question have been complied with. In particular, the provisions relating to registration periods (cf. art. 6 of the Regulations) must be respected.

In view of the above, and in order to avoid any potential issues related to the application of art. 5 par. 3 of the Regulations, we kindly ask you to inform your affiliated clubs, in particular those intending to sign new players, accordingly.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Players' Status Department directly via email at psdfifa@fifa.org if you have any questions in connection with any of the above.

We thank you for your valuable collaboration.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

Encl. as mentioned

cc: FIFA Council
Players' Status Committee
Dispute Resolution Chamber
Confederations

Training Costs and Categorisation of clubs for the year 2019

The training costs listed hereunder are established on a confederation basis for each category of clubs. In accordance with art. 4 of Annexe 4 of the Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players, these training costs will be updated at the end of every calendar year.

Confederation	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
AFC		USD 40,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
CAF		USD 30,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
CONCACAF		USD 40,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
CONMEBOL	USD 50,000	USD 30,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
OFC		USD 30,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
UEFA	EURO 90,000	EURO 60,000	EURO 30,000	EURO 10,000

In continuation, you will find a table for each confederation, setting out the categories in which each association is asked to allocate its clubs.

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TABLE 1 - AFC

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Afghanistan				X
Australia		X	X	X
Bahrain				X
Bangladesh				X
Bhutan				X
Brunei Darussalam				X
Cambodia				X
China PR			X	X
China Taipei				X
Guam				X
Hong Kong				X
India				X
Indonesia				X
Iran		X	X	X
Iraq			X	X
Japan		X	X	X
Jordan				X
Korea DPR				X
Korea Republic		X	X	X
Kuwait			X	X
Kyrgyzstan				X
Laos				X
Lebanon			X	X
Macau				X
Malaysia			X	X
Maldives				X
Mongolia				X
Myanmar				X
Nepal				X

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Oman				X
Pakistan				X
Palestine				X
Philippines				X
Qatar			X	X
Saudia Arabia			X	X
Singapore			X	X
Sri Lanka				X
Syria				X
Tajikistan				X
Thailand				X
Timor-Leste				X
Turkmenistan				X
United Arab Emirates			X	X
Uzbekistan				X
Vietnam				X
Yemen				X

TABLE 2 – CAF

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Algeria		X	X	X
Angola				X
Benin				X
Botswana				X
Burkina Faso				X
Burundi			X	X
Cameroon		X	X	X
Cape Verde Islands				X
Central African Republic				X
Chad				X
Comoros				X
Congo				X
Congo DR				X
Côte d'Ivoire		X	X	X
Djibouti				X
Egypt		X	X	X
Equatorial Guinea				X
Eritrea				X
Ethiopia				X
Gabon				X
Gambia			X	X
Ghana		X	X	X
Guinea				X
Guinea-Bissau				X
Kenya				X
Lesotho				X
Liberia				X
Libya			X	X
Madagascar				X
Malawi				X

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Mali			X	X
Mauritania				X
Mauritius				X
Morocco		X	X	X
Mozambique				X
Namibia				X
Niger				X
Nigeria		X	X	X
Rwanda			X	X
São Tomé e Príncipe				X
Senegal		X	X	X
Seychelles				X
Sierra Leone				X
Somalia				X
South Africa		X	X	X
South Sudan				X
Sudan			X	X
Swaziland				X
Tanzania				X
Togo			X	X
Tunisia		X	X	X
Uganda				X
Zambia				X
Zimbabwe				X

TABLE 3 - CONCACAF

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Anguilla				X
Antigua and Barbuda				X
Aruba				X
Bahamas				X
Barbados				X
Belize				X
Bermuda				X
British Virgin Islands				X
Canada			X	X
Cayman Islands				X
Costa Rica		X	X	X
Cuba				X
Curacao				X
Dominica				X
Dominican Republic				X
El Salvador			X	X
Grenada				X
Guatemala		X	X	X
Guyana				X
Haiti				X
Honduras			X	X
Jamaica			X	X
Mexico		X	X	X
Montserrat				X
Nicaragua				X
Panama				X
Puerto Rico				X
St. Kitts and Nevis				X
St. Lucia				X
St. Vincent / Grenadines				X
Surinam				X
Trinidad and Tobago			X	X
Turks and Caicos Islands				X
USA		X	X	X
US Virgin Islands				X

TABLE 4 - CONMEBOL

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Argentina	X	X	X	X
Bolivia			X	X
Brazil	X	X	X	X
Chile		X	X	X
Colombia			X	X
Ecuador			X	X
Paraguay			X	X
Peru			X	X
Uruguay		X	X	X
Venezuela			X	X

TABLE 5 - OFC

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
American Samoa				X
Cook Islands				X
Fiji				X
New Caledonia				X
New Zealand			X	X
Papua New Guinea				X
Samoa				X
Solomon Islands				X
Tahiti				X
Tonga				X
Vanuatu				X

TABLE 6 - UEFA

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Albania			X	X
Andorra				X
Armenia			X	X
Austria		X	X	X
Azerbaijan			X	X
Belarus			X	X
Belgium	X	X	X	X
Bosnia-Herzegovina			X	X
Bulgaria			X	X
Croatia			X	X
Cyprus			X	X
Czech Republic			X	X
Denmark		X	X	X
England	X	X	X	X
Estonia			X	X
Faroe Islands				X
Finland			X	X
France	X	X	X	X
Georgia			X	X
Germany	X	X	X	X
Gibraltar				X
Greece		X	X	X
Hungary		X	X	X
Iceland			X	X
Republic of Ireland		X	X	X
Israel			X	X
Italy	X	X	X	X
Kazakhstan			X	X
Kosovo			X	X
Latvia			X	X
Liechtenstein				X

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Lithuania			X	X
Luxembourg			X	X
FYR Macedonia			X	X
Malta			X	X
Moldova			X	X
Montenegro				X
Netherlands	X	X	X	X
Northern Ireland			X	X
Norway		X	X	X
Poland			X	X
Portugal		X	X	X
Romania			X	X
Russia		X	X	X
San Marino				X
Scotland		X	X	X
Serbia			X	X
Slovakia			X	X
Slovenia			X	X
Spain	X	X	X	X
Sweden		X	X	X
Switzerland		X	X	X
Turkey		X	X	X
Ukraine		X	X	X
Wales			X	X