

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1693

Zurich, 24 September 2019

DSG/ DSG/egs/kop

Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players – registration periods for competitions in which only amateurs participate as well as for professional male and female competitions

Dear Sir or Madam,

We refer to the international transfers of amateur players which can, from 1 October 2019 onwards, also be processed through the FIFA International Transfer Matching System (ITMS).

The transitional period from 1 October 2019 to 30 June 2020 for the implementation of the relevant procedural requirements gives the associations the opportunity to set up their internal processes. However, upon receipt of a request for the international transfer certificate (ITC) of an amateur player through ITMS, associations will be required to respond to that request through ITMS with immediate effect.

Starting from 1 July 2020, all steps to process the international move of players over the age of ten to be registered with their new club as amateurs via ITMS and the relevant procedural requirements will become mandatory (cf. FIFA Circular no. 1679).

Besides the above, we would like to clarify that, in accordance with Annexe 3, article 5.1 paragraph 1 of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (hereinafter: *the Regulations*), each association is already being requested to **enter separately in ITMS** the season and **registration period dates** for:

- professional male competitions,
- professional female competitions, and
- **male and female competitions in which only amateurs participate.**

In this context, every association is required to **immediately** insert the applicable **registration periods for competitions in which only amateurs participate at least up to 31 December 2020** into ITMS. This action should be completed **no later than 30 September 2019**.

TMS Global Transfers & Compliance will be actively monitoring compliance with these obligations and remains available to provide assistance if needed.

For the sake of clarity, players who participate in competitions in which only amateur players participate are subject to the amateur registration period(s) set by the relevant association. Players who participate in professional competitions, in which professionals (and amateurs) participate, are subject to the professional registration periods defined by the relevant association, regardless of whether they are registered as an amateur or professional player. For the respective definition of a player's status, we refer to article 2 paragraph 2 of the Regulations.

In accordance with article 6 paragraphs 1 and 4 of the Regulations, every association may fix different registration periods for professional male competitions and professional female competitions as well as for competitions in which only amateurs (both male and female) participate. Nothing, however, prevents an association from establishing the same registration periods for male and female professional competitions as well as for professional competitions and competitions in which only amateurs participate.

The restrictions outlined in article 6 paragraph 2 of the Regulations concerning the number, the beginning and the end as well as the maximum duration of the registration periods for professional male and female competitions do not apply to competitions in which only amateurs participate.

Please note that if an association does **not define registration periods for competitions in which only amateur players participate** in ITMS, it will **not be possible to register players for those competitions**. Indeed, the registration periods identified for professional competitions in ITMS will no longer apply automatically to competitions in which only amateur players participate. Likewise, if no registration periods for male or female professional competitions are entered in ITMS, the ones established for professional competitions of one gender will not apply automatically to the professional competitions of the opposite one. Therefore, your association will not be able to register players for the competitions concerned.

Furthermore and in order to safeguard the sporting integrity of competitions, a player registered with a club to play in a competition in which only amateurs participate will only be eligible to play for that same club in a professional competition during the course of one sporting season if he/she was initially registered during one of the two registration periods fixed for professional competitions.

Finally, we kindly ask you not to use any other form or means than ITMS in order to notify FIFA of your association's registration periods. We 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.

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 preceding annotations.

We thank you for taking note of the above information and for your valuable collaboration.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



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cc: FIFA Council
Players' Status Committee
Dispute Resolution Chamber
Confederations
FIFPro
ECA
World Leagues Forum