

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1700

Zurich, 10 December 2019

bas/sjb

Women's international match calendar 2020-2023 (version 2)

Dear Sir or Madam,

With this circular, we would like to inform you that the women's international match calendar for the 2020-2023 period has been amended in accordance with the decisions taken by the FIFA Council at its meeting on 24 October 2019.

The specific amendments approved by the FIFA Council include:

- Concacaf Women's Olympic Qualifying Tournament dates confirmed as 27 January – 9 February 2020
- AFC Women's Olympic Qualifying Tournament dates confirmed as 3-9 February 2020
- Extension of the type I window in April 2020 by one day (specifically, 6-15 April 2020) exclusively for the two teams in the Women's Olympic Football Tournament 2020 intercontinental play-off between CONMEBOL and CAF

The updated version of the women's international match calendar (see enclosure) has also been published on FIFA.com.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the amendments to Annexe 1, art. 1bis of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players, which were approved by the FIFA Council at its meeting on 26 October 2018 and which will provide the adequate regulatory basis in support of the release of players to association teams in line with the concept of the women's international match calendar 2020-2023 (cf. FIFA circular no. 1650 of 6 November 2018).

The relevant amended provisions (see enclosure for ease of reference) will enter into force on 1 January 2020.

We thank you for your kind attention to the above and remain at your disposal should you have any queries in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Mattias Grafström
Acting Deputy Secretary General (Football)

Encl: - as mentioned
cc: - FIFA Council
- Confederations
- Players' Status Committee
- ECA
- FIFPro
- World Leagues Forum

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL MATCH CALENDAR 2020-2023

2020	Dates	Window type	Max. number of matches
	27 January - 9 February	Concacaf Women's Olympic Qualifiers	
	3-9 February	AFC Women's Olympic Qualifying Tournament	
	2-11 March	Type II	3
	6-14 April	Type I	2
	or 6-15 April	Type I (exclusively for the two teams in the Women's Olympic Football Tournament 2020 intercontinental play-off between CONMEBOL and CAF)	2
	1-9 June	Type I	2
	or 1-10 June	Type II (non-UEFA confederations)	3
	22 July - 7 August	Women's Olympic Football Tournament	
	14-22 September	Type I	2
	19-27 October	Type I	2
	or 19-31 October	Type III (confederation qualification tournaments only, for all confederations excluding UEFA)	4
	23 November - 1 December	Type I	2
	or 23 November - 20 December	BLOCKED PERIOD Women's Africa Cup of Nations 2020 (includes release period)	

Type I: release of players to national associations: Monday to Tuesday night (following week)

Type II: release of players to national associations: Monday to Wednesday night (following week)

Type III: release of players to national associations: Monday to Saturday night (following week)

Final competitions of the FIFA Women's World Cup™, the Women's Olympic Football Tournament and blocked periods for the championships for women's "A" representative teams of the confederations:

Monday morning of the week preceding the week when the relevant final competition starts. Players must be released by the association on the morning of the day after their team's last match in the tournament.

2021	Dates	Window type	Max. number of matches
	15-24 February	Type II	3
	5-13 April	Type I	2
	June/July *	Type I	2
		Type II (except UEFA)	3
		Type III (confederation qualification tournaments only, for all confederations excluding UEFA)	4
	4-31 July	BLOCKED PERIOD UEFA Women's EURO	
	13-21 September	Type I	2
	18-26 October	Type I	2
	22-30 November	Type I	2
	or 22 November - 1 December	Type II (non-UEFA)	3

2022	Dates	Window type	Max. number of matches
	14-23 February	Type II	3
	4-12 April	Type I	2
	13-21 June	Type I	2
	4 July - 7 August	BLOCKED PERIOD Final competitions for the championships of the confederations (including release period), except UEFA	
	29 August - 6 September	Type I	2
	3-11 October	Type I	2
	31 October - 20 November	BLOCKED PERIOD Final competitions for the championships of the confederations (including release period), except UEFA	
	7-15 November	Type I	2

* Start of the international window to be aligned with the start of the release period for the UEFA Women's EURO. Dates to be announced via circular at least 18 months in advance.

2023	Dates	Window type	Max. number of matches
	13-22 February	Type II	3
	or 13-25 February	Type III (confederation qualification tournaments only, for all confederations excluding UEFA)	4
	3-11 April	Type I	2
	June/July **	Type I	2
	10 July - 20 August	BLOCKED PERIOD FIFA Women's World Cup™	
	18-26 September	Type I	2
	23-31 October	Type I	2
	27 November - 5 December	Type I	2
	or 27 November - 6 December	Type II (non-UEFA)	3

** Start of the international window to be aligned with the start of the release period for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™. Dates to be announced via circular at least 18 months in advance.

Amendments to art. 1bis of Annexe 1 of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players

New text (amendments in **bold**)
(to come into force on 1 January 2020)

Paragraph 1 - unchanged

Paragraph 2

The release of players under the terms of paragraph 1 of this article is mandatory for all international windows listed in the women's international match calendar (cf. paragraphs 3 and 4 below) as well as for the final competitions of the FIFA Women's World Cup™, the **Women's Olympic Football Tournament**, the championships for women's "A" representative teams of the confederations, subject to the relevant association being a member of the organising confederation, and the confederations' final-round qualification tournaments for the Women's Olympic Football Tournament.

Paragraph 3

After consultation with the relevant stakeholders, FIFA publishes the women's international match calendar for a period of four years. It will include all international windows for the relevant period (cf. paragraph 4 below), **as well as the final competitions of the FIFA Women's World Cup™, the Women's Olympic Football Tournament and blocked periods for the championships for women's "A" representative teams of the confederations as well as for the confederations' final-round qualification tournaments for the Women's Olympic Football Tournament.** Following the publication of the women's international match calendar, only the **specific dates for the championships for women's "A" representative teams of the confederations and the confederations' final-round qualification tournaments for the Women's Olympic Football Tournament will be added within the respective blocked periods. The championships for the women's "A" representative teams of the confederations and the final-round qualification tournaments for the Women's Olympic Football Tournament must be played within the respective stipulated blocked periods and confederations are required to notify FIFA of the dates, in writing, at the latest two years in advance of the respective championships for women's "A" representative teams or final-round tournament.**

Paragraph 4

There are three types of international windows:

- a) unchanged
- b) Type II is defined as a period of **ten** days starting on a Monday morning and ending on **Wednesday** night the following week, which is reserved for **friendly tournaments of the representative teams and qualifying matches**. During the type II international window, a maximum of three matches may be played by each representative team. **The pertinent**

matches can be scheduled on any day as from Thursday during the international window, provided that a minimum of two full calendar days are left between two matches (e.g. Thursday/Sunday/Wednesday).

- c) Type III is defined as a period of **13** days starting on Monday morning and ending on **Saturday** night the following week, which is reserved **exclusively** for **qualifying matches for the championships of the women's "A" representative teams of the confederations**. During the type III international window, a maximum of four matches may be played by each representative team. **The pertinent matches can be scheduled on any day as from Thursday during the international window, provided that a minimum of two full calendar days are left between matches (e.g. Thursday/Sunday/Wednesday/Saturday).**

Paragraph 5 - unchanged

Paragraph 6

For all three types of international windows, players must be released and start the travel to join their representative team no later than Monday morning and must start the travel back to their club no later than the next Wednesday morning (type I), **the next Thursday morning (type II)** or the next **Sunday** morning (type III) following the end of the international window. For the confederations' final-round qualification tournaments for the **Women's Olympic Football Tournament**, players must be released and start the travel to join their representative team no later than Monday morning before the opening match of the qualification tournament and must be released by the association **on** the morning of the day after the last match of their team in the tournament. **For the latter qualification tournaments, the maximum total period of release (between leaving Monday morning and the day of release back to the club by the association) is 16 days.** For **the other** final competitions in the sense of paragraphs 2 and 3 above, players must be released and start the travel to their representative team no later than **the Monday morning of the week preceding the week when the relevant final competition starts**, and must be released by the association **on** the morning of the day after the last match of their team in the tournament.

Paragraph 7 - unchanged

Paragraph 8 - unchanged

Paragraph 9 - unchanged

Paragraph 10 - unchanged