

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1732

Zurich, 23 September 2020

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Amendments to the FIFA Statutes, the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress. FIFA Legal Handbook

Dear Sir or Madam,

At the 70th FIFA Congress on 18 September 2020, the member associations approved amendments to the FIFA Statutes, the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes (**Regulations**), and the Standing Orders of the Congress (**Standing Orders**), all of which entered into force **immediately** following the Congress.

FIFA Statutes and the Standing Orders of the Congress

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the way all international organisations conduct their affairs, in particular on the way they hold physical meetings. With regard to the 70th FIFA Congress, FIFA relied on a special Swiss law adopted earlier this year which allows all Switzerland-based organisations to hold their annual general meetings as online events.

Due to the fact that the special law is time-limited and as it is not clear how the situation will evolve regarding the possibility of holding physical meetings, the approved amendments to the FIFA Statutes and the Standing Orders allow for a FIFA Congress, whether ordinary or extraordinary, to be convened in person, by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication. Furthermore, voting by correspondence and/or online is expressly permitted when holding an online FIFA Congress.

These amendments allow for maximum flexibility in order to be able to communicate effectively and take vital decisions for the football community.

Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes

In September 2019, the Football Stakeholders Committee (**FSC**) established a technical working group (**TWG**) to examine the Regulations, which govern eligibility to participate for representative teams. The establishment of the TWG followed requests by several member associations to amend and modernise these Regulations, which have remained unchanged since 2008.

Following the completion of the TWG process, the principles agreed upon were endorsed, first by the FSC and, subsequently, by the FIFA Council, which recommended the submission of the proposed amendments to the FIFA Congress for approval.

