



TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1742

Zurich, 9 December 2020

DSG/coj/lka

FIFA Guardians Safeguarding in Sport Diploma – pre-registration

Dear Sir or Madam,

FIFA's mission is to promote football, protect its integrity and bring the game to all. In line with that endeavour, [The Vision 2020-2023: Making Football Truly Global](#) sets out FIFA's commitment to promoting "safe sport" as part of broader efforts to protect human rights.

In addition, under the FIFA Forward development programme, member associations and confederations are required to "take measures to protect and safeguard children and minors from potential abuses and to protect their wellbeing within football" (article 8 paragraph 1t of the FIFA Forward Development Programme Regulations – Forward 2.0).

As a cornerstone of our commitment to safeguarding and child protection, FIFA launched the [FIFA Guardians child safeguarding toolkit for member associations](#) in July 2019. This is designed as a practical handbook on the steps needed to develop and implement policies and procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of children and young adults in football.

To support these efforts, we are now launching the **FIFA Guardians Safeguarding in Sport Diploma together with the Open University** in January 2021.

The programme will be available in English, French and Spanish and will consist of five online courses aimed at **safeguarding officers** from FIFA's 211 member associations (referred to as "FIFA learners").

In addition to completing the online courses, FIFA learners will be able to:

- access a series of "programme-wide webinars" delivered on specific safeguarding themes;
- contribute to moderated forums;
- undertake assessment tasks for each course; and
- attend FIFA Safeguarding residential workshops.

The aim is to professionalise the role of safeguarding officers in football and support them in their vital task of ensuring that the game is played in a safe and supportive environment for everyone.

As part of the pre-registration process, we kindly request all member associations to nominate **one person from your association that you wish to undertake this educational programme, i.e. your designated safeguarding officer**, by sending the below information to FIFAGuardians.Safeguarding@open.ac.uk.

- Name
- Job title
- Email address
- Member association name
- Preferred course language (English, French or Spanish)

Please submit your nomination by 4 January 2021 using “FIFA Guardians Safeguarding in Sport Diploma – registration” as the email subject. The Open University will manage this registration process for FIFA learners, with applications to be approved by FIFA.

FIFA will cover the full cost of this new educational programme.

Member associations may also nominate additional staff members with an interest in safeguarding and child welfare to complete the new diploma. Should you wish to do so, please also send their names, titles and email addresses as detailed above to the Open University by 4 January 2021. Places will be allocated based on availability, with priority given to the lead designated safeguarding officer.

In addition, the first course in the new FIFA Guardians Safeguarding in Sport Diploma – **Safeguarding Essentials** – is designed for everybody involved in the game to learn about the basics of safeguarding in football. We encourage your staff and volunteers to sign up [here](#) to receive notifications ahead of the launch of the course in January 2021.

We are counting on your full support in the important mission of helping to protect children in football.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION


Alasdair Bell
Deputy Secretary General (Administration)

cc: - FIFA Council
- Confederations