



## TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1726

Zurich, 30 July 2020

SG/emo/jud

### **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 the relevant articles of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (the **Regulations**) that address compensation for the training of young players, classifying clubs into categories, and fixing registration periods in your association.

In this respect, we would like to emphasise that the Transfer Matching System (**TMS**) is mandatory for all FIFA member associations. Both the notification of registration periods as well as the categorisation of clubs that are participating in TMS, as established by your association, must be recorded in TMS. For those clubs that are not participating in TMS (such as purely amateur clubs), FIFA must be notified of categorisation in writing.

#### **1. Training compensation**

With regard to **training compensation**, each association must classify its clubs into different categories based on the extent of each club's expenditure for training young players. The category specified **shall: (a) be reviewed at the beginning of the season only; and (b) be valid for the relevant season.** Associations are not permitted to amend the category of a club during a season.

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.

Each association is kindly requested to insert the relevant data concerning the categorisation of its affiliated clubs in TMS **by 1 September 2020**. If an affiliated club is not listed in TMS, please notify FIFA of the relevant categorisation in writing at [psdfifa@fifa.org](mailto:psdfifa@fifa.org) **by 1 September 2020**.

Please note that, regarding clubs participating in TMS, the categorisation identified in TMS will prevail over any conflicting categorisation.

In the event that you do not complete the categorisation of your affiliated clubs in TMS by 1 September 2020, your association may be subject to compliance proceedings. We refer you to the FIFA TMS administrative sanction procedure (**ASP**) outlined in FIFA circular no. 1478 of 6 March 2015.

## 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. 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021), in accordance with art. 6 pars 1 and 2 of the Regulations, into TMS **by 1 September 2020** 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 registration periods for female and male competitions differ, associations may fix different registration periods for their male and female competitions (cf. FIFA circular no. 1601 of 31 October 2017).

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 TMS **at least 12 months before they come into force**. Therefore, your association is required to enter in TMS all applicable registration periods up to 31 December 2021.

Regarding the timing of the registration periods (for men and women), please note the following:

- As a general rule, 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 or territory, it will not be possible 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.
- If an association does not define registration periods for male or female professional competitions in TMS, the periods established for professional competitions of one gender will not automatically apply to the professional competitions of the other gender. Therefore, **the association will not be able to register players for those competitions for which no registration period has been defined**.
- For the sake of completeness, we kindly remind you of the temporary amendments to art. 6 par. 2 and art 5.1 of Annexe 3 of the Regulations as adopted by the FIFA Council (cf. [FIFA circular no. 1720](#) of 11 June 2020), which addressed several temporary amendments regarding registration periods in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**In the event that you do not complete the notification procedure of your registration periods in TMS by 1 September 2020, FIFA itself may set the dates for your association (cf. art. 6 par. 2 of the Regulations).**

It is the sole responsibility of each association to ensure that accurate registration periods are properly entered in accordance with the association's decision. Only the dates included in TMS will be considered, irrespective of divergent communications made outside the system. Where a registration period has not yet started, and in exceptional circumstances, it is possible to change its dates. Once a registration period has started, it is not possible to change the period.

Finally, your association is requested to communicate to FIFA via TMS, by **1 September 2020**, the dates of the 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. For the sake of good order, please note that if an association does not define registration periods in TMS for competitions in which only amateur players participate, it will not be possible to register players for those competitions. Indeed, the registration periods identified for professional competitions in TMS will not apply to competitions in which only amateur players participate.

### **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 eligibility of players to participate in 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. 4 of the Regulations in their own national regulations.

It is the responsibility of each association to ensure that its own national regulations, as well as those 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 each association's responsibility to duly consider the sporting integrity of its competitions.

We would draw your particular attention to art. 5 par. 4 of the Regulations, which states that players may be registered with a maximum of three clubs during one season and are only eligible to play official matches for two clubs. The season to be considered when calculating the number of clubs is that of the association of the potential new club that wishes to engage the player. As an exception to this rule, a player 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 various conditions stipulated in art. 5 par. 4 have been complied with. In particular, the provisions relating to registration periods (cf. art. 6 of the Regulations) must be respected.

For the sake of completeness, a temporary amendment was made to art. 5 par. 4 of the Regulations adopted by the FIFA Council (cf. FIFA circular no. 1720 of 11 June 2020) as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to avoid any concerns regarding unemployed players, players are permitted to be registered with a maximum of three clubs and are eligible to play in official matches for three clubs during the same season, limited to:

- i. for associations following a dual-year calendar: the 2019/20 and 2020/21 seasons; and
- ii. for associations following a single-year calendar: the 2020 season.

To avoid any potential issues related to the application of art. 5 par. 4 of the Regulations, please inform your affiliated clubs, in particular those intending to sign new players, accordingly.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Players' Status Department at [psdfifa@fifa.org](mailto: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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'FS', is written between two horizontal lines that serve as a signature line.

Fatma Samoura  
Secretary General

Encl. as mentioned

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

## Training Costs and Categorisation of clubs for the year 2020

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.

<b>Confederation</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
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.

### **Index:**

Table 1 – AFC

Table 2 – CAF

Table 3 – CONCACAF

Table 4 – CONMEBOL

Table 5 - OFC

Table 6 – UEFA

**TABLE 1 - AFC**

<b>National Association</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
Afghanistan				X
Australia		X	X	X
Bahrain				X
Bangladesh				X
Bhutan				X
Brunei Darussalam				X
Cambodia				X
China PR			X	X
Chinese 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

<b>National Association</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
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**

<b>National Association</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
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



<b>National Association</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
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**

<b>National Association</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
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**

<b>National Association</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
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**

<b>National Association</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
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**

<b>National Association</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
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

<b>National Association</b>	<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>	<b>Category III</b>	<b>Category IV</b>
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