

REGULATIONS

FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™



FIFA®

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I. General provisions

1 FIFA Women's World Cup™

1.

The FIFA Women's World Cup™ ("World Cup") is a FIFA competition embodied in the FIFA regulations.

2.

The World Cup takes place every four years. As a general rule, every association affiliated to FIFA may participate in the World Cup.

3.

Participation in the World Cup is free of charge.

4.

The World Cup consists of a preliminary competition and a final competition.

5.

Any rights that are not ceded by the Regulations for the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ ("Regulations") to the Organising Association/ Local Organising Committee or any Participating Member Association or to a confederation shall remain with FIFA.

6.

These Regulations regulate the rights, duties and responsibilities of all associations taking part in the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ ("World Cup 2019") and of the Organising Association/Local Organising Committee by forming an integral part of the Hosting Agreement ("HA"). The Regulations and all guidelines and circulars issued by FIFA are binding for all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation and hosting of the World Cup 2019.

7.

The FIFA Statutes and all FIFA regulations in force shall apply. Any reference in these Regulations to the FIFA Statutes and regulations refers to the Statutes and regulations valid at the time of application.

2 Preliminary competition

1.

The organisation of the preliminary competition in the applicable form is assigned to the confederations in accordance with the FIFA Statutes in their applicable form. The confederations are required to draw up regulations for the preliminary competition and to submit them to FIFA for approval at least three months before the start of the preliminary competition.

2.

On entering the preliminary competition, all associations automatically undertake to:

- (a) accept that all administrative, disciplinary and refereeing matters related to the preliminary competition shall be dealt with by the respective confederation in compliance with the regulations submitted, and FIFA will only intervene if a confederation requests FIFA's assistance or in any cases specifically provided for in the FIFA Disciplinary Code;
- (b) observe the principles of fair play.

3 Organising Committee for FIFA Competitions

1.

The Organising Committee for FIFA Competitions (the "FIFA Organising Committee"), appointed by the FIFA Council, is responsible for organising the World Cup 2019 in accordance with the FIFA Statutes and the FIFA Governance Regulations.

2.

The FIFA Organising Committee may, if necessary, appoint a bureau and/or a sub-committee to deal with emergencies.

3.

The FIFA Organising Committee shall deal with any aspect of the World Cup that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations, the FIFA Statutes or the FIFA Governance Regulations.

4.

The decisions taken by the FIFA Organising Committee and/or its bureau/sub-committee are final and binding and not subject to appeal.

4 Organising Association/Local Organising Committee – responsibilities

1.

The FIFA Council has appointed the French Football Association (FFF) (“Organising Association”) as the host of the final competition of the World Cup 2019.

2.

The Organising Association is responsible for organising, hosting and staging the final competition. It shall set up a Local Organising Committee (“LOC”) in accordance with the HA. The Organising Association and the LOC shall be subject to the control of FIFA. All FIFA decisions are final.

3.

The obligations and responsibilities of the Organising Association with respect to the final competition are stipulated in the HA.

4.

The Organising Association shall discharge FIFA from all responsibility and relinquish any claim against FIFA and the members of its delegation for any damages resulting from any act or omission relating to the organisation and course of the World Cup.

5.

The Organising Association shall ensure that any decision taken by FIFA relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

5 Participating Member Associations – responsibilities

1.

The associations that qualify for the final competition (the “Participating Member Associations”) agree to comply with and ensure that every Delegation Member (players, coaches, managers, officials, media officers, representatives, guests and any other person carrying out duties throughout the competition, and for the entire duration of their stay in the host country, on behalf of a Participating Member Association) complies with these Regulations, the Laws of the Game, the FIFA Statutes and FIFA’s regulations, in particular the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Code of Ethics and the FIFA Equipment Regulations, as well as with any other FIFA circular letters, regulations, guidelines, directives and/or decisions.

In addition, the players notably agree to:

- a) respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence;
- b) behave accordingly;
- c) refrain from doping as defined by the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations.

2.

On entering the final competition, the Participating Member Associations automatically undertake to:

- a) observe these Regulations and ensure that their Delegation Members, in particular but not only their players, also observe these Regulations and the principles of fair play;
- b) accept and obey all instructions and decisions taken by the bodies and officials of FIFA under the terms of these Regulations;
- c) participate in all matches of the final competition in which their team is scheduled to take part;
- d) accept all of the arrangements relating to the final competition made by the Organising Association in agreement with FIFA;

- e) accept the use by FIFA and/or the issue of a sub-licence by FIFA to third parties, as well as the recording and broadcast of the images, names and records of all Delegation Members that may appear in connection with the final competition;
- f) ensure the provision of adequate insurance to cover their Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on their behalf against all risks, including but not limited to injury, accident, disease and travel in consideration of the relevant FIFA rules or regulations.

3.

In addition, each Participating Member Association shall be responsible for:

- a) the conduct of its Delegation Members;
- b) paying for incidental costs and expenses incurred by its Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf during the course of their stay in the host country;
- c) paying for any costs of extending the stay of any Delegation Member or any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf;
- d) applying for visas in good time from the nearest consulate or embassy of the host country, if necessary;
- e) attending all media conferences and other media activities organised by FIFA in accordance with the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations.

4.

All Participating Member Associations shall confirm their participation by submitting the entry form and any other required documentation as communicated by FIFA via the corresponding circular(s), duly signed by the deadline(s) set by FIFA. The timely submission to FIFA of any such documents is of the essence. If a Participating Member Association fails to adhere to the time limits and/or fails to meet the formal requirements for submitting the necessary documents, the FIFA Organising Committee shall pass a decision.

5.

All Participating Member Associations shall indemnify, defend and hold FIFA, the Organising Association, the LOC, and all of their officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and all other auxiliary persons free and harmless against any and all liabilities, obligations, losses, damages, penalties, claims, actions, fines and expenses (including reasonable legal expenses) of whatsoever kind or nature resulting from, arising out of, or attributable to, any non-compliance with these Regulations by the Participating Member Associations, their Delegation Members, their affiliates and any third parties contracted to the Participating Member Associations.

6 Withdrawal, unplayed matches, abandoned matches and replacement

1.

All Participating Member Associations undertake to play all of their matches until eliminated from the World Cup.

2.

Any Participating Member Association that withdraws from the World Cup no later than 30 days before the first match of the final competition shall be fined at least CHF 15,000 by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee. Any Participating Member Association that withdraws from the World Cup fewer than 30 days before the first match of the final competition shall be fined at least CHF 20,000 by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.

3.

Depending on the circumstances of the withdrawal, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee may impose additional disciplinary measures, including the expulsion of the Participating Member Association concerned from subsequent FIFA competitions.

4.

Any match which is not played or which is abandoned – except in cases of force majeure recognised by FIFA – may lead to the imposition of disciplinary measures against the relevant associations by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

5.

Any Participating Member Association that withdraws or whose behaviour is liable for a match not being played or being abandoned may be ordered by the FIFA Organising Committee to reimburse FIFA, the Organising Association or any other Participating Member Association for any expenses incurred as a result of its behaviour. In such cases, the association concerned may also be ordered by FIFA to pay compensation for any damages incurred by FIFA, the Organising Association or any other Participating Member Association. The association in question will also forfeit any claim to financial remuneration from FIFA.

6.

If a Participating Member Association withdraws or a match cannot be played or is abandoned as a result of force majeure, FIFA shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary.

7.

Further to the above provision, in the case of a match being abandoned as a result of force majeure after it has already kicked off, the following principles shall apply:

- a) The match shall recommence at the minute at which play was interrupted rather than being replayed in full, and with the same scoreline.
- b) The match shall recommence with the same players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the match was abandoned.
- c) No additional substitutes may be added to the list of players on the start list.
- d) The teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the match was abandoned.
- e) Players sent off during the abandoned match cannot be replaced.
- f) Any disciplinary measures imposed before the match was abandoned will be dealt with in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
- g) The kick-off time, date and location shall be decided by FIFA.

8.

If any Participating Member Association withdraws or is excluded from the competition, FIFA shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary. The FIFA Organising Committee may in particular decide to replace the association in question with another association.

II. Disciplinary procedures

7 Disciplinary matters

1.

Disciplinary infringements are dealt with in compliance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code in force as well as with all relevant circulars and directives, with which the Participating Member Associations and Delegation Members undertake to comply.

2.

FIFA may introduce new disciplinary rules and measures for the duration of the World Cup. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Member Associations before the first match of the final competition at the latest.

8 Disputes

1.

All disputes in connection with the World Cup shall be promptly settled by mediation (with the exception of those falling under art. 7 above).

2.

In compliance with the FIFA Statutes, Participating Member Associations may not take disputes to an ordinary court of law but to the exclusive jurisdiction of FIFA.

3.

The Participating Member Associations acknowledge and accept that, once all stages of appeal have been exhausted at FIFA, their sole recourse shall be to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, unless excluded or for final and binding decisions. Any such arbitration proceedings shall be governed by the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration.

9 Protests

1.

For the purpose of these Regulations, protests are objections of any kind related to events or matters that have a direct effect on matches, including but not limited to the state of and markings on the pitch, accessory match equipment, eligibility of players, stadium installations and footballs.

2.

Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests shall be submitted in writing to the FIFA General Coordinator within two hours of the match in question and followed up immediately with a full written report, including a copy of the original protest, to be sent in writing and by registered letter to the FIFA headquarters in the host country within 24 hours of the end of the match, otherwise they will be disregarded.

3.

Protests regarding the eligibility of players nominated for matches shall be submitted in writing to the FIFA headquarters in the host country no later than five days before the opening match of the final competition and shall be dealt with by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.

4.

Protests regarding the state of the pitch, its surroundings, markings or accessory items (e.g. goals, flag posts or footballs) shall be made in writing to the referee before the start of the match by the head of delegation of the team lodging the protest. If the pitch's playing surface becomes unplayable during a match, the captain of the protesting team shall immediately lodge a protest with the referee in the presence of the captain of the opposing team. The protests shall be confirmed in writing to the FIFA General Coordinator by the head of the team delegation no later than two hours after the match.

5.

Protests against any incidents that occur during the course of a match shall be made to the referee by the team captain immediately after the disputed incident and before play has resumed, in the presence of the captain of the opposing team. The protest shall be confirmed in writing to the FIFA General Coordinator by the head of the team delegation no later than two hours after the match.

6.

No protests may be made about the referee's decisions regarding facts connected with play. Such decisions are final and not subject to appeal, unless otherwise stipulated in the FIFA Disciplinary Code. The same applies to any potential issues concerning the use of the goal-line technology (GLT) and video assistant referee (VAR) systems.

7.

If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee may impose disciplinary measures.

8.

If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded by the competent body. Once the final match of the World Cup has ended, any protests described in this article shall be disregarded. Notwithstanding the above, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee remains competent to prosecute any disciplinary infringement *ex officio* as established in the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

9.

The FIFA Organising Committee shall pass decisions on any protests lodged, subject to the exceptions stipulated in these Regulations, the FIFA Statutes or any other FIFA regulations.

10 Yellow and red cards

1.

Single yellow cards and pending suspensions as a consequence of cautions in different matches in the preliminary competition organised by the confederations are not carried over to the final tournament. Pending match suspensions imposed as a result of a red card in matches in the preliminary competition organised by the confederations are carried over to the final tournament.

2.

Single yellow cards in the final tournament will be cancelled after the quarter-finals.

3.

If a player receives two cautions during two different matches, she will automatically be suspended from her team's subsequent match.

4.

If a player is sent off as a result of a direct or indirect red card, she will automatically be suspended from her team's subsequent match. In addition, further sanctions may be imposed in the case of a direct red card.

5.

Any suspension that cannot be served during this competition will be carried over to the representative team's next official match.

III. Competition format

11 Number of teams

The number of teams taking part in the World Cup 2019 final competition has been fixed at 24, to be apportioned among the confederations as follows:

Confederation	Number of slots	
AFC	5	
CAF	3	
CONCACAF	3.5	Play off
CONMEBOL	2.5	
OFC	1	
UEFA	8	
Hosts	1	

12 Group and knockout stages

1.

The final competition will be played in a group stage, followed by three knockout stages, the play-off for third place and the final.

2.

The 24 participating teams will be divided into six groups of four teams. FIFA will seed the teams for the final tournament draw in accordance with the team ranking as established in the draw procedures. FIFA will divide the teams into groups by seeding and drawing lots in public, taking into account geographical and sporting considerations. The teams in the six groups will be designated as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E	Group F
A1	B1	C1	D1	E1	F1
A2	B2	C2	D2	E2	F2
A3	B3	C3	D3	E3	F3
A4	B4	C4	D4	E4	F4

3.

The group matches will be played following the schedule below. Each team plays each of the other teams in the same group once, according to a league system (three points for a win, one for a draw, none for a defeat).

MATCHDAY 1	MATCHDAY 2	MATCHDAY 3
A1 v. A2 A3 v. A4	A1 v. A3 A4 v. A2	A4 v. A1 A2 v. A3
B1 v. B2 B3 v. B4	B1 v. B3 B4 v. B2	B4 v. B1 B2 v. B3
C1 v. C2 C3 v. C4	C1 v. C3 C4 v. C2	C4 v. C1 C2 v. C3
D1 v. D2 D3 v. D4	D1 v. D3 D4 v. D2	D4 v. D1 D2 v. D3
E1 v. E2 E3 v. E4	E1 v. E3 E4 v. E2	E4 v. E1 E2 v. E3
F1 v. F2 F3 v. F4	F1 v. F3 F4 v. F2	F4 v. F1 F2 v. F3

4.

The two teams finishing first and second in each group and the four best teams among those ranked third will qualify for the round of 16.

5.

The 16 teams that qualify from the group stage will contest the round of 16 as follows:

- Match 37: 2nd A v. 2nd C
- Match 39: 1st D v. 3rd B/E/F
- Match 38: 1st B v. 3rd A/C/D
- Match 42: 2nd F v. 2nd E
- Match 44: 1st E v. 2nd D
- Match 43: 1st C v. 3rd A/B/F
- Match 41: 2nd B v. 1st F
- Match 40: 1st A v. 3rd C/D/E

Note: the above configuration does not necessarily represent the chronological order in which the matches will be played.

6.

The following table indicates the pairings in the round of 16, depending upon which third-placed teams qualify from the group stage. For example, if the teams finishing third in groups A, B, C and D qualify, the pairings will be 1st A v. 3rd C, 1st B v. 3rd D, 1st C v. 3rd A and 1st D v. 3rd B.

The four best-placed

teams are:	1A plays	1B plays	1C plays	1D plays
A B C D	3C	3D	3A	3B
A B C E	3C	3A	3B	3E
A B C F	3C	3A	3B	3F
A B D E	3D	3A	3B	3E
A B D F	3D	3A	3B	3F
A B E F	3E	3A	3B	3F
A C D E	3C	3D	3A	3E
A C D F	3C	3D	3A	3F
A C E F	3C	3A	3F	3E
A D E F	3D	3A	3F	3E
B C D E	3C	3D	3B	3E
B C D F	3C	3D	3B	3F
B C E F	3E	3C	3B	3F
B D E F	3E	3D	3B	3F
C D E F	3C	3D	3F	3E

7.

The eight teams that qualify from the round of 16 will contest the quarter-finals as follows:

Match 45: Winner 37 v. Winner 39

Match 48: Winner 38 v. Winner 42

Match 47: Winner 43 v. Winner 44

Match 46: Winner 40 v. Winner 41

Note: the above configuration does not necessarily represent the chronological order in which the matches will be played.

8.

The four winners of the quarter-finals will contest the semi-finals as follows:

Match 49: Winner 45 v. Winner 46

Match 50: Winner 47 v. Winner 48

Note: the above configuration does not necessarily represent the chronological order in which the matches will be played.

9.

The two winners of the semi-finals will contest the final. The runners-up of the semi-final will contest the play-off for third place as follows:

Play-off for third place: Runner-up 49 v. Runner-up 50

Final: Winner 49 v. Winner 50

13

Equal points and qualification for knockout stage

1.

If two or more teams in the same group are equal on points after the completion of the group stage, the following criteria, in the order below, shall be applied to determine the ranking:

- Step 1:
 - a) greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;
 - b) superior goal difference in all group matches;
 - c) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches.

- Step 2:

If two or more teams in the same group are equal on the basis of the above three criteria, their rankings will be determined as follows:

 - d) greatest number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned;
 - e) superior goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;

- f) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;
- g) highest team conduct score relating to the number of yellow and red cards obtained:
 - yellow card: minus 1 point
 - indirect red card (as a result of two yellow cards): minus 3 points
 - direct red card: minus 4 points
 - yellow card and direct red card: minus 5 points

Only one of the above deductions shall be applied to a player in a single match.

- h) drawing of lots by FIFA.

With respect to the second step, all affected teams will be ranked by applying the criteria d) to g) in order. If one team qualifies for a higher or lower ranking pursuant to one criterion, but it is not possible to rank all teams on the basis of the same criterion, the remaining two or three teams will be ranked pursuant to the next criterion, and so on. In any case, the second step of the ranking does not restart for the two or three teams remaining after application of a criterion.

2.

The four best teams among those ranked third will be determined as follows:

- a) greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;
- b) goal difference resulting from all group matches;
- c) greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;
- d) highest team conduct score relating to the number of yellow and red cards obtained in all group matches and calculated as per step 2 g) above;
- e) drawing of lots by FIFA.

14

Extra time and kicks from the penalty mark

1.

In the knockout stages, if a match is level at the end of normal playing time, extra time shall be played. Extra time shall consist of two 15-minute periods, with an interval of five minutes at the end of normal playing time, but not between the two periods of extra time. The players shall remain on the pitch during both of these intervals.

2.

If the score is still level at the end of extra time, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken to determine the winner, in accordance with the procedure specified in the Laws of the Game.

IV. Competition preparation

15 Draw

1.

The draw for the final competition shall, in principle, take place at least three months prior to the opening match of the final competition.

2.

The draw will be organised by FIFA and the Organising Association and will be combined with a Team Workshop, team venue inspection visits and other related activities.

3.

FIFA will cover the costs of flights (business class for flights over four hours, economy class for flights under four hours) from the capital city of the respective Participating Member Association to the city where the draw is taking place for three representatives – head coach, team administrator and team media officer – of each participating team. In addition, FIFA will cover the costs of accommodation for the three representatives for a maximum of four nights, depending on the flight times from/to the country of origin. The LOC will cover the costs of any domestic transport (air, rail or road) from the city where the draw is taking place to the city where the team will play its first group match, so that the team can conduct a team venue visit in the city concerned. Any other costs shall be borne by the Participating Member Association concerned.

16 Venues and kick-off times

1.

The venues, dates and kick-off times of the matches shall be proposed by the Organising Association, subject to approval by FIFA.

2.

The dates and venues of the matches shall be set, allowing each team a minimum rest period of 48 hours between matches.

3.

In principle, the last matchday matches of the group stage of the same group shall kick off simultaneously, unless there is a case of force majeure.

4.

If necessary, FIFA may decide to change kick off-times after the draw.

17

Friendly matches

1.

Each team is entitled to play friendly matches in the host country up until five days prior to the opening match of the competition

2.

The following rules apply :

- a) Prior authorisation shall be given for a tier 1 international match as described in art. 7 of the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.
- b) Matches in stadiums selected for use during the final competition will generally be prohibited.
- c) The official training sites cannot be used for friendly matches as of seven days prior to the first training session scheduled at the training site. Any use prior to this date is subject to approval by FIFA.
- d) Teams drawn into the same group shall not play friendly matches against each other in the host country.
- e) No World Cup competition marks shall be used in relation to friendly matches, nor shall any other connection be drawn with the World Cup in any marketing, promotional or advertising materials produced for friendly matches.

3.

Each Participating Member Association playing friendly matches or organising a pre-tournament training camp in France shall apply for visas for all members of their delegation at least one month prior to their arrival in France.

4.

FIFA may provide further information on friendly matches by means of a circular letter.

18

Team arrivals

1.

Each team participating in the final competition shall arrive at the venue of its first group match at least four days before the team's first match.

2.

Only official team hotels under contract with either FIFA or the Organising Association/LOC shall be used for the teams' accommodation.

V. Stadiums and training sites

19 Stadiums

1.

FIFA carries out stadium inspections in the years leading up to the World Cup to check whether the required structural criteria are met by the stadiums hosting the competition. The FIFA administration accepts or rejects each stadium on the basis of several structural and safety criteria observed during the inspection visits and any other information gathered by FIFA. Such decisions are final.

2.

The Organising Association shall provide FIFA with all documents confirming that the stadiums have been thoroughly inspected by the relevant public authorities and meet all the safety requirements laid down by the applicable national law and the FIFA Stadium Safety and Security Regulations.

20 Pitches

1.

Unless otherwise approved by FIFA, the pitch shall have the following dimensions: length 105m, width 68m. The total surface area shall have the following dimensions at a minimum: length 125m, width 85m, in order to provide sufficient space for warm-up and pitch-side positions of photographers.

2.

The pitch watering schedule and the height of the grass will be communicated by the FIFA General Coordinator at the match coordination meeting. The FIFA General Coordinator, in consultation with the local pitch expert, shall define the grass height and watering schedule.

21 Stadium roof

1.

If a stadium has a retractable roof, the FIFA General Coordinator shall decide before the match whether the roof shall be open or closed during the match. This decision must be announced at the match coordination meeting on the day before the match, although it may subsequently be modified prior to kick-off in the event of sudden and significant weather condition changes.

2.

If the match starts with the roof closed, it shall remain closed for the entire match. If the match starts with the roof open and there is a serious deterioration in the weather conditions, only the referee has the authority to order its closure during the match. In such an event, the roof is to remain closed until the end of the match.

22 Stadium clocks and giant screen

1.

Clocks in the stadium showing the length of time played may run during the match, provided that they are stopped at the end of normal playing time in each half, i.e. after 45 and 90 minutes respectively. This stipulation shall also apply if extra time is played (i.e. after 15 minutes of each half).

2.

Panels or electronic display boards, numbered on both sides for clarity, shall be used by the fourth official to indicate the substitution of players and the number of minutes to be allowed for time lost.

3.

FIFA shall determine the conditions governing all scoreboard and giant screen transmissions.

23 Training sites

- 1.**
The Organising Association shall provide four training sites per Host City. The training sites shall be approved by FIFA.
- 2.**
The training sites shall be made available at least four days before the first match in the venue until one day after the respective venue has hosted its last match in the World Cup. The training sites shall be made available at any time requested by the teams for their exclusive use according to the training site allocation schedule.
- 3.**
Each team will be allocated a training site for its exclusive use during its stay in each Host City. Full details about the allocation of training sites shall be communicated at the Team Workshop.
- 4.**
Unless otherwise approved by FIFA, all training site pitches shall be 105m x 68m in size.
- 5.**
The training sites shall be situated within a reasonable driving distance by team bus from the team hotel, ideally within 20 minutes' drive.
- 6.**
The training sites shall have the same surface as the match pitches and be in perfect condition, freshly mowed and fully marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- 7.**
The Organising Association shall provide support personnel and suitable training site equipment at all official training sites, including but not limited to cones and movable goals. Each training site shall be equipped with at least one dressing room with lockers, showers and toilets.
- 8.**
As from four days prior to the opening match of the final competition and up to their elimination, the Participating Member Associations shall use only those training sites which have been officially designated for training by FIFA.

VI. Players' and officials' lists

24 Eligibility

1.

Each Participating Member Association shall ensure the following when selecting its representative team for the World Cup:

- a) All players shall hold the nationality of their country and be subject to its jurisdiction.
- b) All players shall be eligible for selection in accordance with the FIFA Statutes, the Regulations Governing the Application of the FIFA Statutes and other FIFA rules and regulations.

2.

Each Participating Member Association is responsible for fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so will lead to the consequences stipulated in the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

25 Provisional list

1.

Each Participating Member Association shall submit a provisional list online of a minimum of 23 players and a maximum of 50 players (a minimum of four of whom shall be goalkeepers) to FIFA, accompanied by a copy of the passport of each player appearing on the list. The provisional list shall be submitted to FIFA by 26 April 2019.

2.

Each Participating Member Association shall include up to 30 team officials on the provisional list so that the relevant authorities can proceed with the background checks for visa and accreditation purposes. Each Participating Member Association shall adhere to the visa requirements and process.

3.

The provisional list will only be used for internal purposes and not released to the public.

26 Final list

1.

The final list of the 23 players (three of whom shall be goalkeepers) selected to participate in the World Cup shall be submitted online by the stipulated deadline. A signed copy of this list must also be sent to FIFA by the same deadline. All information requested online about the players should be duly completed.

2.

The players on the final list must be chosen from the players on the provisional list. Only the 23 players on the final list will be permitted to take part in the final competition.

3.

A player listed on the final list may be replaced by a player from the provisional list only in the event of serious injury or illness up until 24 hours before the kick-off of her team's first match. The replacement shall be nominated by the participating team, who shall inform FIFA accordingly. Upon receipt and acceptance of a written detailed medical assessment in one of the four official languages of FIFA, the FIFA Medical Committee, represented by the FIFA General Medical Officer, will issue a certificate stating that the injury or illness is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the World Cup. Injured players who are replaced must return their accreditation to FIFA. Accordingly, players who have returned their accreditation shall no longer be considered members of the Participating Member Association's final list.

4.

The final list of 23 players will be published by FIFA immediately after the submission deadline.

27 Accreditation

1.

FIFA shall issue each player and team official with an official accreditation bearing a photograph. Each Participating Member Association will receive 50 accreditations (23 for the players on the final list, 12 for the officials on the final list and an additional 15 accreditations for support staff). For the sake of clarity, FIFA will only cover the costs of 35 delegates as stipulated in the financial provisions.

2.

FIFA shall provide a certain number of Supplementary Accreditation Devices (SADs) to each team in order to control and restrict access to the dressing rooms and the field of play on matchdays. Further details will be given to the teams at a later stage.

3.

FIFA reserves the right to revoke the accreditation of any official or player due to the misconduct of the individual concerned.

4.

The Participating Member Associations shall ensure that all accreditation data required by FIFA is submitted by the deadline stipulated by FIFA. Further details will be outlined in a circular letter.

VII. Kit and team equipment

28 Kit and colours approval

1.

The FIFA Equipment Regulations in force apply to all matches of the competition, unless specified otherwise in these regulations.

2.

Each team shall inform FIFA of two different and contrasting colours (one predominantly dark and one predominantly light) for its official and reserve team kits (shirt, shorts and socks). In addition, each team shall select three contrasting colours for the goalkeepers. These three goalkeeper kits must be different and contrasting from each other as well as from the official and reserve team kits. This information shall be submitted online via the team colour form by the stipulated deadline. Only these colours may be worn during matches.

3.

The Participating Member Associations will be asked to send samples of kits (playing kit and all other items used at the stadium) to FIFA who will confirm the exact approval procedure. On the basis of this procedure, FIFA will issue a written team kit report, approving or rejecting the kit items.

29 Numbers and names

1.

Only the numbers 1 to 23 may be allocated to the players, with number 1 being reserved exclusively for one of the goalkeepers. These numbers must be displayed at chest height on the front and back of the shirts according to the FIFA Equipment Regulations. The numbers shall correspond to the numbers indicated on the final list.

2.

The player's last name or popular name (or abbreviation) shall be affixed above the number on the back of the shirt and shall be clearly legible in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations. The name on the shirt must bear a strong resemblance to the player's popular name as indicated on FIFA's official list of players and in any other official FIFA documentation. In case of doubt, FIFA shall have the final decision regarding the name that appears on the shirt.

3.

Each team shall supply a set of goalkeeper shirts without names or numbers. These shirts will only be used in those special circumstances in which an outfield player must take the position of goalkeeper during a match. This extra set of goalkeeper shirts must be provided in the same three colours as the regular goalkeeper shirts.

30 Match colours designation

1.

In principle, each team shall wear its official team kit as declared on the team colour form. If the two teams' colours could cause confusion, team A shall be entitled to wear its official team kit and team B shall use its reserve team kit or, if necessary, both teams shall wear a combination of the official and the reserve team kits.

2.

The FIFA administration informs the teams of the playing colours before the start of each match. The colours are reviewed during the match coordination meeting by the referee assessor and the FIFA General Coordinator. The colours assignment decided by the FIFA administration in consultation with the referee is final.

3.

The official and reserve team kits and all goalkeeper kits (including the goalkeeper shirts without names and numbers) shall be taken to every match.

31 Other equipment

1.

FIFA will supply a sufficient number of players' sleeve badges with the official competition logo of the World Cup, which shall be affixed on the right-hand sleeve of each shirt. A different FIFA campaign logo may be affixed on the left-hand sleeve. FIFA will communicate to the participating teams the instructions for use of the players' sleeve badges.

2.

FIFA will provide each participating team with a set of special equipment upon arrival in the host country (drinks bottles, drinks coolers, medical bags, captain's armbands, etc.). This equipment must be used at the stadium and official training sessions, to the exclusion of any similar items.

3.

The footballs used in the World Cup shall be selected and exclusively supplied by FIFA. Time permitting, each team will receive training balls from FIFA prior to the World Cup after the successful submission of the required team entry. Training balls will also be provided to the participating teams upon arrival in the host country. Only these balls provided by FIFA may be used for training and warm-up sessions at the official stadiums and training sites.

4.

Only warm-up bibs provided by FIFA may be used during official training sessions held at the stadium and on the team benches and for the warm-up of substitute players during the match.

VIII. Match organisation

32 Start list

1.

At the match coordination meeting (before each match), both teams will receive a start list with all 23 players' full names and shirt numbers together with the full names of the officials to be seated on the bench. The start list should be duly completed by selecting the 11 players who will start the match, indicating the captain, selecting the officials to be seated on the bench (maximum of 11) and signed by the head coach or the relevant participating team official.

2.

Both teams must submit their completed start list to the FIFA General Coordinator at least 90 minutes before kick-off. If the start list is not submitted on time, the matter will be reported to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.

3.

The numbers on the players' shirts must correspond to the numbers indicated on the start list. Each team is responsible for ensuring that the start list is completed properly and that only the 11 selected players start the match.

4.

If any of the 11 players submitted on the start list are not able to begin the match due to injury or illness, they may be replaced by any of the eligible substitutes as long as the FIFA General Coordinator is officially informed thereof prior to kick-off. Within 24 hours, the team concerned must also provide FIFA with a medical report issued by the team doctor responsible (in one of the four official languages of FIFA).

5.

Further to the above, any injured or ill player who is removed from the start list will no longer be eligible to take part in the match, and thus cannot be selected as a substitute player at any time during the match. Such a change to the start list will not reduce the number of official substitutions that may be made by a team during the match. Although no longer eligible to play as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the start list before kick-off may be seated on the team bench, and would in that case also be eligible for doping control selection.

33

Technical area

1.

The technical area is the area which the coach, other team officials and substitutes are allowed to occupy during the match. It includes the dugout (if applicable), the team bench and a marked zone adjacent to the pitch.

2.

No more than 23 people (11 officials and 12 substitutes) shall be allowed to sit on the team bench. A suspended player or official will not be allowed to sit on the team bench.

3.

If there is sufficient space, additional technical seats in the stand shall be allocated for accredited officials providing technical support to the team during the match (kit manager, assistant physiotherapist, etc.). Staff occupying such seats shall have access to the dressing rooms, with a valid SAD.

4.

During the match, substitutes are allowed to leave the technical area to warm up. At the match coordination meeting, the FIFA General Coordinator determines exactly where they may warm up (either behind the first assistant referee or behind the advertising boards behind the goal).

5.

A maximum of six players shall warm up at the same time (with a maximum of two officials). Only the goalkeeper may warm up with a ball. If there is not sufficient space behind the goals, both teams shall warm up in the designated area behind the first assistant referee. In this case, only a maximum of three players and one official per team may warm up at the same time and without any balls.

6.

Smoking is not allowed in the technical area, in the vicinity of the field of play or within the competition areas, such as the dressing rooms.

7.

Small, hand-held electronic or communication devices are permitted in the technical area if used for coaching/tactics or player welfare, in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

34 Match protocol

1. The countdown to kick-off provided to both teams at the match coordination meeting shall be strictly complied with by both teams.
2. The FIFA flag and the flags of the host country and both competing associations shall be flown in the stadium at every match.
3. The walkout music supplied by FIFA shall be played while the teams are entering the field of play, followed by the national anthems of the two teams. The Participating Member Associations shall submit their national anthem to FIFA (maximum duration of 90 seconds) by the date stipulated in the relevant circular.

35 Warm-up, official training sessions and stadium familiarisation

1. The teams will be entitled to warm up on the pitch before each match, weather and pitch conditions permitting. In principle, such warm-up will be 30 minutes long and will take place from 50 minutes prior to kick-off until 20 minutes prior to kick-off. If the pitch is not in good condition or if warm-up sessions would negatively affect the state of the pitch for the match, or if the pitch is to be used for ceremonies related to the World Cup, FIFA may shorten or cancel the warm-up session.
2. Weather and pitch conditions permitting, teams that are due to play a match in a stadium in which they have not previously played will be entitled to one 60-minute training session in that stadium on either the day before the match or two days before the match in the case of double-header matches.
3. The two teams that qualify for the final may be permitted to have another official 60-minute training session, even if they have already played a match in the stadium before. The final decision will be taken by FIFA, based on the condition of the pitch.

4.

If the pitch is not in good condition or the training session would negatively affect the state of the pitch, FIFA may shorten or cancel the training session and offer the teams the opportunity to have a familiarisation session of the pitch wearing training shoes.

IX. Refereeing

36 Laws of the Game

- 1.**
All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game in force at the time of the World Cup and as laid down by The International Football Association Board. In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the translations of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.
- 2.**
One additional substitute may be used at the World Cup when a match goes into extra time (regardless of whether or not the team has already used the full number of permitted substitutes before extra time).
- 3.**
Players are entitled to a 15-minute interval at half-time; a short drinks break (which should not exceed one minute) is permitted at the interval of half-time in extra time.
- 4.**
Extreme weather conditions may warrant cooling breaks to be implemented during the course of a match in accordance with the protocols established by the FIFA Medical Committee and/or documented in the FIFA Football Emergency Medicine Manual. Such breaks will be considered on a match-by-match basis. Responsibility for implementing and controlling cooling breaks resides with the referee.
- 5.**
Goal-line technology may be used for the purpose of verifying whether a goal has been scored to support the referee's decision. The participating teams shall consent, without reservation, to the use of goal-line technology in the World Cup, and unconditionally and irrevocably waive any and all rights and interests they may have in connection with or as a result of the use of goal-line technology in matches of the World Cup.
- 6.**
A video assistant referee (VAR) may assist the referee with making a decision using replay footage in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Laws of the Game in force at the time of the competition and as laid down by The International Football Association Board.

37 Referees

1.

The referees, assistant referees and fourth officials (hereinafter referred to collectively as “match officials”) for the World Cup shall be appointed for each match by the FIFA Referees Committee. They shall be selected from the FIFA International Refereeing List in force and come from a member association that is not represented by a team playing in the match in question. The decisions of the FIFA Referees Committee are final and not subject to appeal.

2.

If the referee or one of the assistant referees is prevented from carrying out her duties, such referee or assistant referee shall be replaced by the fourth official.

3.

After each match, the referee shall complete the official match report online form whilst still at the stadium, immediately after the match. On the form, the referee shall note all occurrences of significance, such as misconduct of players leading to caution or expulsion, unsporting behaviour by supporters and/or by officials or any other person acting on behalf of a participating team at the match and any other incident happening before, during and after the match in as much detail as possible.

X. Financial provisions

38 Costs borne by FIFA

FIFA shall bear the costs of:

1.

International air travel (business class for flights over four hours, economy class for flights under four hours) for each member of each Participating Member Association, up to a maximum of 35 delegates from the capital city of the respective Participating Member Association (or, in exceptional cases, from another city as decided by FIFA) to the capital city of the host country or, if deemed necessary by FIFA, to the international airport nearest to the venue where the team is scheduled to play its first match or any other venue designated by FIFA, with an airline specified by FIFA. Depending on the contracts negotiated between FIFA and the airline(s), FIFA will decide on the weight of excess baggage for which FIFA will bear the costs, and will inform the Participating Member Associations accordingly.

2.

Board and lodging for 35 Delegation Members from each Participating Member Association. This includes:

- a) 11 double rooms and 13 single rooms;
- b) 1 meeting room;
- c) 1 equipment room;
- d) 1 treatment room;
- e) 1 dining room;
- f) 3 meals per day, and an additional light meal for every matchday.

These rooms shall be available starting four days prior to each team's first match and ending one day after its last match. FIFA may make exceptions in the event of unforeseen circumstances resulting from transport difficulties.

3.

Laundry service for a set of match or training kits for 35 people per participating team per day, starting four days prior to each team's first match and ending one day after its last match.

4.

Prize money for the Participating Member Associations, the amounts of which shall be determined by FIFA and communicated by means of a circular letter.

39 Costs borne by the Organising Association

The Organising Association shall bear the costs of:

1.

Domestic travel (road, rail or air) within the host country for 35 people per participating team;

- a) One team bus, one passenger van and one equipment van will be provided for the exclusive use of each participating team during the period commencing four days prior to each team's first match and until one day after its last match.
- b) One additional luggage truck will be provided when travelling between the airport and the official team hotel, and between venues.

2.

Training facilities for the participating teams.

40 Costs borne by the Participating Member Association

1.

Each Participating Member Association shall be responsible for and bear the costs of:

- a) adequate insurance cover for its Delegation Members;
- b) board and lodging during the World Cup in excess of the amounts paid by FIFA or the Organising Association specified above;
- c) any costs associated with additional members in excess of the 35 Delegation Members covered;

- d) costs for any additional equipment and/or items not covered by FIFA in the team meeting rooms and/or the team dressing rooms;
- e) costs for any additional menu items other than those agreed between FIFA and the team hotels.

2.

Any expenses other than those stipulated in these Regulations and explicitly outlined to be borne by FIFA or the Organising Association shall be borne by the relevant Participating Member Association.

41 Ticketing

1.

Each Participating Member Association is entitled to receive complimentary tickets for the final competition. The total number of complimentary tickets for each Participating Member Association will be communicated by FIFA prior to the opening match of the final competition by means of a circular letter.

2.

FIFA will issue ticketing documents to each of the Participating Member Associations. All Participating Member Associations shall comply with these ticketing documents and ensure that their members, Delegation Members and other affiliates also comply with such documents.

XI. Medical

42 Team medical doctor

Each Participating Member Association shall include a medical doctor in its delegation.

43 Sudden cardiac arrest and concussion

1.

In order to discover heart issues or risk factors which might lead to a sudden cardiac arrest during matches of a final competition, and to protect players' health, each Participating Member Association shall ensure and confirm to FIFA that its players undergo a pre-competition medical assessment prior to the start of the final competition. FIFA will provide all Participating Member Associations with an assessment form.

2.

A player who experiences suspected concussion during a match must undergo an examination by the team doctor in accordance with the protocols documented in the FIFA Football Emergency Medicine Manual. The referee may temporarily suspend play for up to three minutes whenever an incident of suspected concussion occurs. The referee may only allow the player to continue playing with the authorisation of the team doctor, who shall have evaluated the player and concluded that the player is not exhibiting signs or symptoms of concussion. The team doctor will have the final decision based on a clinical examination and subject to an express prohibition against returning a player to play if concussion is suspected.

FIFA recommends that teams follow the return to play protocol set forth in SCAT5 for any player who has suffered concussion. SCAT5 recognises that the time frame for return to play may vary, including based on the player's age and history, and that doctors must use their clinical judgment in making decisions with respect to return to play. FIFA requires that before any player who suffers concussion can return to play in the World Cup, the team doctor certify that (a) such player has passed each of the steps set out in SCAT5, and (b) such player is fit for competition.

XII. Commercial rights

44 Media and Marketing Regulations

1.

FIFA is the original owner of all of the rights emanating from the World Cup and any other related events under its respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audio-visual and radio recording rights, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights, such as emblems and rights arising under copyright law, whether currently existing or created in the future, subject to any provision as set forth in specific regulations.

2.

FIFA shall issue, at a later date, Media and Marketing Regulations for the final competition, specifying these commercial and intellectual property rights. All FIFA members must comply with these Media and Marketing Regulations for the final competition and must ensure that their members, officials, players, delegates and other affiliates also comply with these regulations.

XIII. Awards

45

Trophy, awards and medals

- 1.**
A souvenir plaque will be presented to each Participating Member Association. Participation certificates will be presented to each member of each official team delegation.
- 2.**
Medals will be presented to each of the top three teams in the final competition, i.e. gold medals to the winners, silver medals to the runners-up and bronze medals to the team ranked third.
- 3.**
FIFA will issue, at a later date, Trophy Regulations. The winning Participating Member Association shall ensure its full compliance with these Trophy Regulations.
- 4.**
At the conclusion of the World Cup, other special awards will be presented (such as the Golden Boot, Golden Glove, Golden Ball, Best Young Player, etc.) either at the awards ceremony or at a later date.

XIV. Closing provisions

46 Special circumstances

FIFA is responsible for the operational management of the competition and is therefore entitled to issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances that may arise in the host country. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

47 Matters not provided for

Any matters not provided for in these Regulations and any cases of force majeure shall be decided by FIFA. All decisions shall be final and binding and not subject to appeal.

48 Languages

In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English, French, Spanish or German texts of these Regulations, the English text shall be authoritative.

49 Copyright

The copyright of the match schedule drawn up in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations is the property of FIFA.

50 No waiver

Any waiver by FIFA of any breach of these Regulations (including of any document referred to in these Regulations) will not operate as, or be construed to be, a waiver of any other breach of such provision or of any breach of any other provision or a waiver of any right arising out of these Regulations or any other document. Any such waiver shall only be valid if given in writing. Failure by FIFA to insist upon strict adherence to any provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations, on one or more occasions will not be considered to be a waiver of, or deprive FIFA of the right to subsequently insist upon, strict adherence to that provision or any other provision of these Regulations, or any document referred to in these Regulations.

51 Enforcement

1. These Regulations were approved by the FIFA Council on 26 October 2018 and came into force immediately.
2. The previous version of these Regulations shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any matters that arose before these Regulations came into force.

Kigali, Oktober 2018

For FIFA

President
Gianni Infantino

Secretary General
Fatma Samoura

