

TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1583

Zurich, 26 May 2017
SG/MAV/oja/jca

Amendment to art. 78 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to inform you about the amendment to art. 78 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code (hereinafter *the FDC*) which was approved by the FIFA Council on the occasion of its meeting held in Manama, Bahrain, on 9 May 2017.

The amendment came into force **immediately**.

You will find the relevant article concerned enclosed with this circular letter. The relevant parts have been highlighted for ease of reference. Equally, the revised edition of the FDC will be available soon on FIFA.com.

As you will note from the enclosed provision, the amendment of art. 78 of the FDC concerns the possibility for the members of the Disciplinary Committee to pass decisions concerning art. 64 of the FDC alone.

In this context, we would like to recall that the FIFA Disciplinary Committee is responsible for, among other things, enforcing those decisions passed by the Players' Status Committee and the Dispute Resolution Chamber with which the parties do not comply. A high number of cases of this type are transferred every year to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee, which then passes the relevant decisions based on art. 64 of the FDC. Such decisions are taken by the Disciplinary Committee together with all the other cases that fall under the competence of the committee during one of the regular meetings held.

Over the years, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee has built a consistent jurisprudence that has been confirmed by the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the Swiss Federal Tribunal with regard to such cases.

In this context, a recent review and analysis of the current decision-making procedure of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee has shown that lately there has been a significant increase in the number of cases.

In this regard, the amendment of art. 78 of the FDC will be beneficial in order to adapt to the current demands and to further increase efficiency in the decision-making procedure, enabling the FIFA Disciplinary Committee to pass decisions based on art. 64 of the FDC on an even more regular basis.

The consolidated and long-standing jurisprudence of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in these types of cases will enable the individual members of the committee to pass decisions as single judges. In addition, cases that might raise complex or fundamental issues will continue to be dealt with by a panel of at least three members of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions in this connection.

We thank you for your kind attention to the above.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

Encl. as mentioned

Cc: - FIFA Council
- Disciplinary Committee
- Players' Status Committee
- Dispute Resolution Chamber
- Confederations
- ECA
- FIFPro
- EPFL

78 Jurisdiction of the chairman and the members of the Disciplinary Committee ruling alone

1. The chairman of the Disciplinary Committee may take the following decisions alone:
- a) suspend a person for up to three matches or for up to two months;
 - b) pronounce a fine of up to CHF 50,000;
 - c) rule on extending a sanction (art. 136);
 - d) settle disputes arising from objections to members of the Disciplinary Committee;
 - e) pronounce, alter and annul provisional measures (cf. art. 129).

2. Cases involving matters under art. 64 may be decided by one member of the committee alone. The chairman of the Disciplinary Committee is responsible for assigning the relevant cases to individual members of the committee. If a particular case raises complex or fundamental issues, the relevant committee member shall notify the chairman of the Disciplinary Committee accordingly who shall then refer the case to a panel in accordance with art. 82.