



# Regulations

FIFA Women's World Cup  
Canada 2015™

**FIFA®**

*For the Game. For the World.*

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6 June – 5 July 2015

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# 1

## FIFA Women's World Cup Canada 2015™

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1. The FIFA Women's World Cup™ ("World Cup") is a FIFA competition embodied in the FIFA Statutes.
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 Canada 2015™ ("Regulations") to the Organising Association 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 World Cup and of the Organising Association 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.
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

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- 1.** The organisation of the preliminary competition in the applicable form, except for the play-off match between the fourth-ranked team from CONCACAF and the third-ranked team from CONMEBOL, 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 the FIFA general secretariat 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)** observe these Regulations;
  - b)** 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. FIFA will only intervene in matters involving associations not affiliated to a confederation if a confederation requests FIFA's assistance or in any cases specifically provided for in the FIFA Disciplinary Code;
  - c)** observe the principles of fair play.

# 3

## FIFA Organising Committee

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- 1.** The Committee for Women’s Football and the FIFA Women’s World Cup™, appointed by the FIFA Executive Committee, is the organising committee for the FIFA Women’s World Cup Canada 2015™ (the “FIFA Organising Committee”) and is responsible for organising the final competition in accordance with the FIFA Statutes.
  
- 2.** The FIFA Organising Committee may, if necessary, appoint a bureau and/or a sub-committee to deal with emergencies. Any decision taken by the bureau or sub-committee shall come into effect immediately but shall be subject to confirmation by the plenary committee at its next meeting.
  
- 3.** The responsibilities of the FIFA Organising Committee include, but are not limited to:

  - a)** supervising general preparations and deciding on the competition format, the draw and the formation of groups;
  
  - b)** approving the dates and venues of the matches and determining kick-off times;
  
  - c)** approving the choice of stadiums and training sites in accordance with the HA and after consultation with the Organising Association;
  
  - d)** appointing Match Commissioners;
  
  - e)** deciding cases of abandoned matches (cf. Law 7 of the Laws of the Game) and art. 6 pars 6 and 7 of these Regulations) and, if applicable, reporting cases to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee for deliberation;

- f)** approving the official football and the stipulated technical material;
  - g)** acknowledging the choice of WADA-accredited laboratories that will carry out the doping analyses as selected by the FIFA Anti-Doping Unit;
  - h)** reporting cases in relation to article 6 of these Regulations to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee for deliberation;
  - i)** judging protests and taking appropriate steps to verify their admissibility, with the exception of protests concerning the eligibility of players, which are dealt with by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee (cf. art. 11 par. 3 and art. 24 par. 4 of the Regulations);
  - j)** replacing associations that have withdrawn from the World Cup;
  - k)** deciding cases of Participating Member Associations failing to adhere to the time limits and/or the formal requirements for submitting the necessary documents;
  - l)** deciding on the rescheduling of matches due to extraordinary circumstances;
  - m)** settling cases of force majeure;
  - n)** dealing with any other aspect of the World Cup that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations or the FIFA Statutes.
- 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

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1. The FIFA Executive Committee has appointed the Canadian Soccer Association (the “Organising Association”) as the host of the final competition of the FIFA Women’s World Cup Canada 2015™.
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, a special contract regulating the working relationship between FIFA and the Organising Association. 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. They include but shall not be limited to:
  - a) ensuring that safety and order is maintained, particularly in and around the stadiums, the training sites, hotels and other venues of the World Cup. It shall take adequate measures, including ensuring the presence of a sufficient number of ground staff and security stewards, to guarantee safety and to prevent and avoid outbreaks of violence;
  - b) concluding liability insurance against possible spectator accidents or deaths;
  - c) concluding insurance policies in consultation with FIFA to cover all risks relating to the final competition’s organisation, in particular, adequate and broad liability insurance in respect of the stadiums, local organisation, members of the Organising Association and the LOC, employees, volunteers and any other persons involved in the organisation of the final competition, with the exception of the Delegation Members (cf. art. 5 par. 2g) of the Regulations).
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 the FIFA Organising Committee relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

## 5

### Participating Member Associations

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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 and guests of a Participating Member Association) complies with these Regulations, the Laws of the Game, the FIFA Statutes and FIFA’s regulations, in particular the Media Guidelines, the Participating Member Association Ticket Allocation Agreement, 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.

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

**a)** comply with the maximum number of players and officials per official delegation as defined in the Technical Rules for the Final Competition (cf. art. 25 par. 5 of the Regulations);

**b)** 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;

**c)** accept and obey all decisions taken by the bodies and officials of FIFA under the terms of these Regulations;

- d)** participate in all matches of the final competition in which their team is scheduled to take part;
  - e)** accept all of the arrangements relating to the final competition made by the Organising Association in agreement with FIFA;
  - f)** accept the usage 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;
  - g)** 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 (if applicable).
- 3.** In addition, each Participating Member Association shall be responsible for:
- a)** the conduct of its Delegation Members and of any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf throughout the final competition and for the entire duration of their stay in the host country;
  - 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 any other official media activities organised by FIFA in accordance with FIFA's instructions.

4. All Participating Member Associations shall confirm their participation by submitting the originals of the official entry form and any other required documentation as communicated by FIFA via the corresponding circular(s), duly signed, to the FIFA general secretariat by the deadline(s) set by FIFA. The timely submission to the FIFA general secretariat of any such documents is of the essence. The deadline shall be deemed as having been met if the relevant documents reach FIFA by the specified deadline. 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 and abandoned matches**

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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 sanctions, 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 the FIFA Organising Committee – may lead to the imposition of sanctions 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 the FIFA Organising Committee 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, the FIFA Organising Committee 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 will 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 team sheet;



- 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 sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match;
- g) the kick-off time, date and location shall be decided by the Organising Committee.

## 7 Replacement

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If any Participating Member Association withdraws or is excluded from the competition, the FIFA Organising Committee 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.

## 8 Disciplinary matters

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1. Disciplinary incidents 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 undertake to comply.
2. FIFA may introduce new disciplinary rules and sanctions for the duration of the World Cup. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Member Associations one month before the first match of the final competition at the latest.

**3.** The Participating Member Associations and their Delegation Members agree to comply with the Laws of the Game and with the FIFA Statutes and regulations, in particular the FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Code of Ethics, the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations and the FIFA Equipment Regulations, as well as with all directives and decisions of FIFA bodies unless these Regulations stipulate otherwise. The players agree to comply with all further FIFA guidelines, circulars and decisions that have any significance regarding the World Cup.

**4.** In addition, the players agree notably 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.

## 9

### Medical/Anti-Doping

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**1.** In order to prevent players from experiencing sudden cardiac death during matches in the final competition, and to protect players' health, each Participating Member Association shall ensure that its players undergo a pre-competition medical assessment prior to the start of the final competition and inform FIFA accordingly. FIFA will provide all Participating Member Associations with an assessment form.

**2.** Failure to comply with the aforementioned provision shall be sanctioned by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

**3.** Doping is strictly prohibited. The FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code and all other relevant FIFA regulations, circulars and directives will apply to the World Cup.

**4.** FIFA will inform the Participating Member Associations of the doping control procedures and the list of prohibited substances by means of a circular letter.

## 10 Disputes

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1. All disputes in connection with the World Cup shall be promptly settled by mediation.
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.

## 11 Protests

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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 Match Commissioner or 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 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.
- 7.** If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee may impose a sanction.
- 8.** If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations is 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.
- 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.

## 12 Equipment

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1. The Participating Member Associations shall comply with the FIFA Equipment Regulations in force and further regulations governing the use of equipment during the World Cup period in force. The display of political, religious, or personal messages or slogans in any language or form by players and officials on their playing or team kits, equipment (including kit bags, beverage containers, medical bags, etc.) or body is prohibited. The similar display of commercial messages and slogans in any language or form by players and officials is not allowed for the duration of their time at any official activity organised by FIFA (including in the stadiums for official matches and training sessions, as well as during official media conferences and mixed-zone activities). Any violations shall be dealt with by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
2. Each team shall inform FIFA of two different and contrasting colours (one predominately dark and one predominately 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 distinctly different and contrasting from each other as well as different and contrasting from the official and reserve team kits. This information shall be sent to FIFA on the team colour form. Only these colours may be worn at the matches.
3. In principle, each team shall wear its official team kit as declared on the official team colour form. If the two teams' colours and the match officials' colour might cause confusion, in principle, team A in the official match schedule will be entitled to wear its official team kit and team B will use its reserve team kit or, if necessary, a combination of the official and the reserve team kits. FIFA will endeavour to ensure that each team wears its official team kit at least once during the final competition.
4. During the final competition, all equipment (kits, gloves, bags, medical equipment, etc.) that could be on display in the stadiums, the training sites, the hotels or during transfers to, from or within the host country must be approved by FIFA.

- 5.** Each Participating Member Association shall provide FIFA with exact samples of the following equipment: (i) official and reserve kits (two sets of shirts, shorts, socks); (ii) three sets of the goalkeeper's kit (shirts, shorts, socks); (iii) goalkeeper's gloves and caps; (iv) equipment that will be worn by the substitute players and the technical staff sitting on the bench during the matches. The approval procedure for all such kits and the applicable deadlines will be communicated by circular letter.
- 6.** FIFA will inform the teams of the colours that they shall wear for each match.
- 7.** Throughout the World Cup, each player shall wear the number assigned to her on the final list. Such number must be displayed on the front and back of her shirt and on her shorts in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations.
- 8.** 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.
- 9.** In addition to all of the above and as the only exception to points 7 and 8 , 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.
- 10.** FIFA shall 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 issue a circular letter to the Participating Member Associations outlining the instructions for use of the players' sleeve badges.
- 11.** The official and reserve team kits and all goalkeeper kits (including the goalkeeper shirts without names and numbers) shall be taken to every match.

**12.** The footballs used in the final competition shall be selected and exclusively supplied by FIFA. The footballs shall conform with the provisions of the Laws of the Game and the FIFA Equipment Regulations. They shall bear one of the following three designations: the official “FIFA APPROVED” logo, the official “FIFA INSPECTED” logo or the “INTERNATIONAL MATCHBALL STANDARD” reference.

**13.** Each team will receive training balls from FIFA after the official draw and after successful submission of the required team entry and team colours information, as well as additional training balls upon arrival in the host country. Only these balls delivered by FIFA may be used for training and warm-up sessions in the official stadiums and at the official training sites.

## 13 Flags and anthems

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**1.** During the final competition, the FIFA flag and the flags of the host country and both competing associations shall be flown in the stadium at every match. The FIFA Fair Play flag and the UN flag shall also be hoisted or draped in the stadium, clearly visible from the VIP box.

**2.** The FIFA anthem shall be played while the teams are entering the field, followed by the national anthems of the two teams. The Participating Member Associations shall submit a CD of their national anthem (maximum 90 seconds) to FIFA by the date stipulated in the relevant circular.

## 14 Venues, stadiums, training sites, dates and kick-off times for matches

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

- 2.** The FIFA Organising Committee shall fix the dates and venues of the matches, allowing each team a minimum rest period of 48 hours between matches.
- 3.** The Organising Association shall ensure that the stadiums and facilities in which the matches take place comply with the FIFA Safety Regulations and other FIFA guidelines and instructions for international matches in force. The stadiums selected for use during the World Cup shall be subject to approval by FIFA. The Organising Association is responsible for safety and order in and around the stadiums before, during and after matches.
- 4.** As a general rule, final competition matches may only be played in all-seater stadiums.
- 5.** The fields of play, accessory equipment and all facilities for each match shall be in optimum condition and comply with the Laws of the Game and all other relevant regulations. All goals shall be equipped with white goalposts, a white crossbar and goal nets (the colour of the goal nets to be determined by FIFA) with grey net support posts. Each stadium shall have spare goals, nets and corner flags located in close proximity to the field of play for contingency purposes. Matches shall be played on natural grass or, provided special dispensation is granted by FIFA, on artificial surfaces. Where artificial surfaces are used, the surface must meet the highest requirements of the FIFA Quality Programme for Football Turf.
- 6.** Matches may be played in daylight or under floodlight. Matches played at night may be played only at venues with floodlighting installations that ensure that the whole pitch is evenly lit according to FIFA specifications. An emergency independent power system shall also be available in each stadium which, in the event of a power failure, guarantees at least two-thirds of the FIFA-specified intensity of light for the whole pitch and ensures emergency lighting in the whole stadium. The FIFA Organising Committee is entitled to grant exceptions, which are final.



**7.** 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 training session of 60 minutes in that stadium on either the day before the match or two days before the match in the case of double-header matches. The teams that qualify for the play-off for third place or final will be entitled to a 60-minute session in the stadium, even if they have already played a match in that stadium, subject to final approval by FIFA depending on weather conditions, pitch quality and other factors. Training times will be communicated by FIFA. In principle, a minimum of 45 minutes shall be set between the end of one team's training session and the start of the next team's training session. 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 direct the teams only to inspect the pitch wearing training shoes.

**8.** The teams will be entitled to warm up on the pitch before each match, conditions permitting. In principle, such warm-up will be 30 minutes in length. 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.

**9.** 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.

**10.** The Organising Association shall provide training sites for the teams. In principle, each team shall have a dedicated training site. These training sites shall be in good condition and approved by FIFA at least ten days before the start of the final competition. They shall be situated near the team hotel and made available at least five days before the opening match until one day after the team's last match in the World Cup. Each training site shall be equipped with at least one dressing room with lockers, showers and toilets. 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.

- 11.** As from five 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. If a team's preparation site is used as an official training site, par. 13 will apply.
- 12.** The stadiums and training sites shall not be used for any other matches or events from at least ten days prior to the start of the final competition (or earlier if deemed necessary by FIFA if conditions require) until the final competition is completed, unless the FIFA Organising Committee gives special permission.
- 13.** All stadiums and training sites shall be available and free of any and all commercial activities and identifications (e.g. boards and other signage) other than those of FIFA's commercial affiliates at least five days prior to the opening match of the final competition until one day after completion of the final match.

## 15 Fields of play, retractable roofs, clocks, displays and giant screens

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- 1.** The fields of play, accessory equipment and all facilities for each match of the final competition shall be in optimum condition and comply with the Laws of the Game and all other relevant regulations. 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 80m, in order to provide sufficient space for warm-up and pitch-side photographer positions.
- 2.** Each stadium shall have sufficient space behind the goals to allow the players to warm up during the matches. A maximum of six (6) players shall warm up at the same time (with a maximum of two (2) 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 assistant referee no. 1. In this case, only a maximum of three (3) players per team may warm up at the same time.

**3.** If a stadium has a retractable roof, the FIFA Match Commissioner and 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. 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.

**4.** 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). The half-time interval shall be 15 minutes.

**5.** At the end of the two periods of normal playing time (45 and 90 minutes), the referee shall indicate to the fourth official, either orally or by gesturing with her hands, the number of minutes that she has decided to allow for time lost. This also applies to the two periods of 15 minutes of extra time.

**6.** 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.

**7.** The use of giant screens must be in compliance with the Guidelines for the Use of Giant Screens at FIFA Matches.

# 16 Refereeing

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- 1.** The referees, assistant referees and fourth officials (hereinafter referred to collectively as “match officials”) for the final competition 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 whose team is not playing in the group or match in question. A reserve assistant referee may also be appointed for certain matches.
- 2.** The match officials shall receive their official refereeing kit and equipment from FIFA. They shall wear and use only this kit and equipment on matchdays.
- 3.** The match officials shall be provided with training facilities. These training facilities must be in good condition and must be approved by FIFA at least ten days prior to the start of the final competition and shall not be used for any other matches or events from at least ten days prior to the start of the final competition until the final competition is completed.
- 4.** 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 or the reserve assistant referee. The FIFA Referees Committee shall be informed immediately.
- 5.** After each match, the referee shall complete and sign the official FIFA report form. The referee shall hand it over to the FIFA General Coordinator at the stadium immediately after the match. On the report 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 an association at the match and any other incident happening before, during and after the match in as much detail as possible.
- 6.** The decisions of the FIFA Referees Committee are final and binding and not subject to appeal.

## 17 Laws of the Game

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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.

## 18 Ticketing

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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.
2. FIFA or the Organising Association will, at a later date, issue special ticketing documents for all ticketing matters, which shall apply to all ticket holders, including but not limited to the associations.
3. FIFA will issue a ticket allocation agreement to each of the Participating Member Associations. All Participating Member Associations shall comply with this ticket allocation agreement and ensure that their members, Delegation Members and other affiliates also comply with such agreement.

## 19 Commercial rights

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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, audiovisual 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.

## 20 Financial provisions

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**1.** Each Participating Member Association shall be responsible for and bear the costs of the following:

- a)** board and lodging during the World Cup (in excess of the amounts paid by FIFA or the LOC);
- b)** any costs associated with additional members of the association's delegation (in excess of the official delegation as defined in these Regulations);
- c)** any costs for any additional equipment in excess of the equipment provided by FIFA or the LOC.

**2.** The Organising Association shall, in accordance with the HA, organise and bear the costs of all domestic travel (ground, rail or air) for each Delegation Member of each Participating Member Association, including their equipment and all related expenses. At a minimum, the LOC shall provide one team bus, one minivan and one luggage vehicle per team in each venue.

**3.** FIFA shall bear the costs of the following:

**a)** international air travel (economy class) for 35 Delegation Members per Participating Member Association 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 the FIFA Organising Committee, 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. In the case of transit stops during travel to and/or from the host country, FIFA will, subject to prior approval, bear the costs for the bus transfer from the airport to the hotel and back, as well as accommodation and meals for the Delegation Members. All additional costs and expenses shall be borne by the Participating Member Association concerned;

**b)** board and lodging for 35 Delegation Members from each Participating Member Association. In principle, FIFA will provide bedrooms for the players and team officials, one room for equipment storage, one medical treatment room and one meeting room/dining room for each team. These rooms shall be available for the number of nights prior to the opening match as specified in the Technical Rules for the Final Competition, until one night (two nights, if an earlier departure is not possible) after the last match of the Participating Member Association concerned. The FIFA Organising Committee may make exceptions in the event of unforeseen circumstances resulting from transport difficulties;

**c)** laundry service of the officials and players of each Participating Member Association for the match kits and one set of training kit per day for the number of days prior to the opening match as specified in the Technical Rules for the Final Competition until the day of the last match of the Participating Member Association concerned in the final competition.

**d)** prize money for the Participating Member Associations, the amounts of which shall be determined by the FIFA Organising Committee.

**4.** 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.



## 21 Number of teams

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The FIFA Executive Committee determines the maximum number of teams to take part in the final competition. The number of teams taking part in the final competition has been fixed at 24, to be apportioned among the confederations as follows:

AFC	5 teams
CAF	3 teams
CONCACAF	3.5 teams*
CONMEBOL	2.5 teams*
OFC	1 team
UEFA	8 teams
Host	Canada

\*The fourth-ranked team from the CONCACAF preliminary competition will compete in a play-off (home and away) against the third-ranked team from the CONMEBOL preliminary competition for a slot in the final competition.

## 22 Draw

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1. The draw for the final competition will take place at least three months prior to the opening match of the final competition.
2. The FIFA Organising Committee shall form groups for the final competition by seeding and drawing lots whilst taking sporting and geographic factors into consideration, as far as possible.
3. The decisions of the FIFA Organising Committee on the group formation and the duration of the final competition are final. In the event of any withdrawals, the FIFA Organising Committee may change the groups in accordance with the provisions in par. 2.

4. The draw will be organised by the Organising Association and will (subject to timing and/or other considerations) be combined with a Team Workshop, team venue inspection visits and other related activities.

5. FIFA will cover the costs of economy class flights from the capital city of the respective Participating Member Association to the city where the draw is taking place for the head coach and one administrator of each team. In addition, FIFA will cover the costs of any domestic transportation (air, rail or road) from the draw city to the city where the team will conduct the team venue inspection visit (more specifically, the venue where the team will play its first group matches), plus the costs of accommodation for the two representatives for a maximum of three nights. Any other costs shall be borne by the Participating Member Association concerned.

## 23 Arrival at venues

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Each team participating in the final competition shall arrive in the venue of their first group match at least four days before the team's first match. Only official team hotels under contract with either FIFA or the Organising Association shall be used for the teams' accommodation.

## 24 Eligibility of players

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

a) each player shall hold the nationality of her 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 relevant FIFA rules and regulations.

2. All organisational and procedural rules of the FIFA Gender Verification Regulations shall apply in relation to protests concerning the eligibility of a player due to gender-related matters unless these Regulations contain diverging rules in the context of gender verification.
3. The Participating Member Associations are responsible for fielding only eligible players. Failure to do so shall lead to the consequences stipulated in the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
4. Protests regarding the eligibility of players shall be decided by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code (cf. art. 11 par. 3).

## 25 **Player lists and official delegation lists**

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### **Provisional list of players**

1. Each Participating Member Association shall submit a provisional list of 35 players (a minimum of four of whom shall be goalkeepers) to the FIFA general secretariat, accompanied by copies of the birth certificate and passport of each player appearing on the list. Further details regarding the provisional list, and the deadline by which the list shall be submitted to the FIFA general secretariat, will be stipulated in the relevant circular.

Any change requests to the provisional list must be submitted no later than ten days before the final list deadline and are subject to the approval of the FIFA Organising Committee.

### **Final list of players**

2. The final list of the 23 players (three of whom shall be goalkeepers) selected to participate in the final competition shall be submitted to the FIFA general secretariat, using the official form, at least ten working days before the opening match of the final competition, as stipulated in the relevant circular.

The players on the final list must be chosen from the players on the provisional list. The final list shall be accompanied, at a minimum, by the following information:

- Full last name
- All first names
- Popular name
- Name to be placed on shirt
- Number to be placed on shirt
- Number of caps and number of goals
- Position
- Date of birth
- Passport number and expiration date
- Club and country of the club
- Height and weight

**3.** Only the 23 players on the final list will be permitted to take part in the final competition. Only the numbers 1 to 23 may be allocated to these players, with number 1 being reserved exclusively for one of the goalkeepers. The numbers on the back of the shirts shall correspond with the numbers indicated on the final list. In the event of a goalkeeper needing to be replaced by an outfield player (due to injuries or red cards), each team shall provide a goalkeeper shirt without a name or number displayed on the back of the shirt in order to distinguish this replacement goalkeeper from the other players.

**4.** A player listed on the final list may be replaced by a player from the provisional list only in the event of serious injury up until 24 hours before the kick-off of her team's first match. Such replacements must be approved in writing by the FIFA Medical Committee upon receipt and acceptance of a written detailed medical assessment in one of the four official languages of FIFA. The FIFA Medical Committee will issue a certificate stating that the injury is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the final competition and hand over such certificate to the FIFA Organising Committee for approval. Upon approval, the association shall immediately nominate a replacement and inform the FIFA general secretariat accordingly (including all the specific player information listed in art. 25 par. 2). The replacement player must be assigned the shirt number of the injured player being replaced.

**5.** The final list of 23 players will be published by the FIFA general secretariat. This final list of 23 players plus 12 officials will constitute the official delegation list.

**6.** Before the start of the final competition, every player on the final list must prove her identity and nationality by producing her legally valid individual passport with photograph (stating day, month and year of birth) and a copy of her birth certificate. Any player who fails to submit these documents will not be allowed to take part in the final competition.

### **Start list**

**7.** All 23 players shall be named on the start list for each match (11 selected players and 12 substitutes). Up to a maximum of three of the substitutes may take the place of the selected players at any time during the match.

**8.** The numbers on the players' shirts must correspond to the numbers indicated on the start list. The start list shall be signed by the head coach.

**9.** Each team is responsible for arriving at the stadium at the latest 90 minutes before the kick-off of the respective match and for providing the completed start list to the FIFA General Coordinator upon such arrival.

**10.** Each team is responsible for ensuring that the start list is completed properly and submitted on time, and that only the selected players start the match. In the case of any discrepancies, the matter will be submitted to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.

**11.** 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 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).

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 game. 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. In accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of the Game, up to a maximum of three substitutions may still be made.

Although no longer eligible to play as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the start list may be seated on the substitutes' bench, and if so, would then also be eligible for doping control selection.

Only the players who were identified on the official start list submitted to the FIFA General Coordinator, or were confirmed as a warm-up injury/illness replacement player, may start the match. In the case of any discrepancies of players on the pitch at the beginning of a match, the matter will be submitted to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee for a decision.

### **Substitutes' bench**

**12.** Not more than 20 people (eight (8) officials and twelve (12) substitutes) shall be allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench. The names of these officials must be indicated on the "Officials on the Substitutes' Bench" form and provided to the FIFA General Coordinator. A suspended player or official will not be allowed to sit on the substitutes' bench.

### **Identity**

**13.** Before the start of the final competition, every team official on the official delegation list must prove his/her identity by producing his/her legally valid individual passport with photograph.

### **Accreditation**

**14.** FIFA shall issue each player and team official with an official accreditation bearing a photograph. Each Participating Member Association will receive a maximum of 35 accreditations (23 for the listed players and twelve (12) for their officials).

**15.** Only players in possession of valid accreditation may play in the final competition.

**16.** Injured players who are replaced up until 24 hours before the kick-off of their team's first match (cf. art. 25 par. 4) 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 official delegation list.

**17.** 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 FIFA circular letter.

## 26 Competition format

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

**2.** In the group stage, the last matches in each group shall be played simultaneously.

**3.** In the knockout stages, if a match is level at the end of normal playing time, extra time shall be played (two periods of 15 minutes each) and followed, if necessary, by kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner.

## 27 Group stage

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**1.** The 24 participating teams will be divided into six groups of four teams.

**2.** The FIFA Organising Committee will divide the teams into groups by seeding and drawing lots in public, taking into account geographic and sporting considerations.

**3.** 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

**4.** The system of play will be the league system, each team playing one match against each of the other teams in the same group, with three points for a win, one point for a draw and none for a defeat.

**5.** The ranking of each team in each group will be determined as follows:

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

If two or more teams 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)** goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;
- f)** greater number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;
- g)** drawing of lots by the FIFA Organising Committee.



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

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

- a)** greater number of points obtained in all group matches;
- b)** goal difference resulting from all group matches;
- c)** greater number of goals scored in all group matches;
- d)** drawing of lots by the FIFA Organising Committee.

## 28 Round of 16

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

2A v. 2C	= Winner 1
1D v. 3 <sup>rd</sup> from B, E or F	= Winner 2
1B v. 3 <sup>rd</sup> from A, C or D	= Winner 3
1F v. 2E	= Winner 4
1E v. 2D	= Winner 5
1C v. 3 <sup>rd</sup> from A, B or F	= Winner 6
2B v. 2F	= Winner 7
1A v. 3 <sup>rd</sup> from C, D or E	= Winner 8

**2.** 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 1A v. 3C, 1B v. 3D, 1C v. 3A and 1D v. 3B.

Combinations	1A plays against:	1B plays against:	1C plays against:	1D plays against:
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

## 29 Quarter-finals

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

Winner 1 v. Winner 2 = Winner A

Winner 3 v. Winner 4 = Winner B

Winner 5 v. Winner 6 = Winner C

Winner 7 v. Winner 8 = Winner D

## 30 Semi-finals

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The four teams that qualify from the quarter-finals will contest the semi-finals as follows:

Winner A v. Winner B

Winner C v. Winner D

## 31 Final, play-off for third place

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1. The winners of the semi-finals qualify for the final.
2. The losers of the semi-finals will contest the play-off for third place.
3. If the play-off for third place is level at the end of normal playing time, extra time shall be played (two periods of 15 minutes each) and followed, if necessary, by kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner. However, if the match is played directly before the final and is level at the end of normal playing time, no extra time shall be played and the winner shall be determined by kicks from the penalty mark.
4. If the final is level at the end of normal playing time, extra time shall be played (two periods of 15 minutes each) and followed, if necessary, by kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner.

## 32 Trophy, awards and medals

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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. FIFA shall be responsible for the administration of the award ceremony, which shall take place after the final match. The FIFA President or his representative, the head of state of the host country or his representative and the heads of delegation of the teams concerned shall be part of the award ceremony.
3. A representative from FIFA will present the winner of the World Cup with the trophy.
4. A diploma will be presented to the associations ranked first, second, third and fourth in the final competition.
5. 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.
6. One medal will be presented to each of the match officials who take charge of the play-off for third place and the final.
7. A fair play contest will be held during the final competition (cf. Appendix). The FIFA Organising Committee will determine the ranking at the end of the final competition. Such decisions are final.
8. At the conclusion of the World Cup, the following special awards will be presented:
  - a) *Fair Play Trophy*  
The FIFA Fair Play Trophy, a fair play medal for each Delegation Member, a diploma and a voucher for USD 10,000 worth of football equipment

(to be used for women's football development) will be presented to the team finishing first in the fair play contest. The applicable rules are in the fair play contest regulations.

**b) *Golden Boot***

The Golden Boot will be awarded to the player who scores the most goals in the final competition. If two or more players score the same number of goals, the number of assists (as determined by members of the FIFA Technical Study Group) will be decisive.

If two or more players are still equal after taking into account the number of assists, the total minutes played in the final competition will be taken into account, with the player playing fewer minutes ranked first.

A Silver Boot and a Bronze Boot for the second and third highest goalscorers will also be awarded.

**c) *Golden Ball***

The Golden Ball will be awarded to the best player in the final competition on the basis of a ranking compiled by the FIFA Technical Study Group. A Silver Ball and a Bronze Ball will be awarded to the second and third best players.

**d) *Golden Glove***

The Golden Glove will be awarded to the best goalkeeper in the final competition on the basis of a ranking compiled by the FIFA Technical Study Group.

**e) *Best Young Player***

The Best Young Player will be awarded to the best young player in the tournament, as selected by the FIFA Technical Study Group.

**9.** There are no official awards other than those listed above, unless otherwise decided by the FIFA Organising Committee.

## 33 Special circumstances

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The FIFA Organising Committee shall, in conjunction with the Organising Association, issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances that may arise in the host country. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

## 34 Matters not provided for

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

## 35 Languages

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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.

## 36 Copyright

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

## 37 No waiver

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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.

## 38 Enforcement

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These Regulations were approved by the FIFA Executive Committee on 21 March 2013 and came into force immediately thereafter.

The previous version of these Regulations shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any matters that arose before these Regulations came into force.

Zurich, March 2013

For the FIFA Executive Committee

President:  
Joseph S. Blatter

Secretary General:  
Jérôme Valcke

## **I. General provisions**

- 1.** As part of its campaign to promote fair play, FIFA regularly holds a fair play contest during its championships, based on an appraisal of the teams' conduct by a FIFA delegate such as the Match Commissioner, a member of the Technical Study Group or a member of a standing committee.
- 2.** The objective of fair play activities is to foster a sporting spirit among players, team officials and spectators, thereby heightening the fans' enjoyment of the game.
- 3.** At the final whistle of each game, the delegate shall complete the appropriate fair play form after consulting the referee and the referee assessor.
- 4.** Every match in the final competition shall be taken into account.
- 5.** The FIFA Organising Committee shall compile and publish the classification at the end of the final competition. Its decision is final.
- 6.** FIFA will award the team that wins the fair play contest a trophy, a medal for each player and official, and a diploma, all of which the team can keep permanently. The team shall also receive a voucher valued at USD 10,000, which shall be exchanged for a supply of football equipment to be used exclusively for women's football development.



## II. Assessment criteria

1. The assessment form contains six criteria by which the teams' fair play performance shall be judged, stressing the positive aspects rather than negative. As a general rule, maximum points shall only be awarded if the team concerned displays a positive attitude.

2. Red and yellow cards shall be deducted from a maximum of 10 points:

- |                                    |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| – first yellow card:               | minus 1 point  |
| – second yellow/indirect red card: | minus 3 points |
| – direct red card:                 | minus 3 points |
| – yellow card & direct red card:   | minus 4 points |

Red and yellow cards are the only criteria entailing minus points.

### 3. Positive play

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 10 points

The aim of this criterion is to reward attacking and attractive play, and shall take into account such aspects as:

#### a) Positive aspects

- attacking rather than defensive tactics;
- speeding up the game;
- constantly attempting to score even if the desired result (e.g. qualification) has already been achieved.

#### b) Negative aspects

- tactics that rely on rough play;
- play-acting;
- time-wasting etc.

c) As a general rule, positive play is correlated with the number of scoring chances created and the number of goals scored.

#### 4. Respect towards the opponent

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 5 points

Players are expected to respect the Laws of the Game, the competition regulations and opponents, etc.

When assessing the players' behaviour towards the opponents, duplication of the judgment for red and yellow cards should be avoided. However, the delegate may take into account the seriousness of the offences punished by cards as well as those overlooked by the referee.

Assessment shall be based on positive attitudes (e.g. helping an injured opponent) rather than on infringements. Behaviour that is basically faultless but does not outwardly show any particularly positive attitude or gesture towards opponents shall be given a mark of 4 rather than 5.

#### 5. Respect towards the referee/match officials

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 5 points

Players are expected to respect the match officials and the decisions they take.

A positive attitude towards the referee, including acceptance of decisions without protest, shall be rewarded. Behaviour that is basically faultless but does not outwardly show any particularly positive attitude or gesture towards the match officials shall be given a mark of 4 rather than 5.

## 6. Behaviour of the team officials

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 5 points

Coaches and other team officials are expected to encourage the sporting, technical, tactical and ethical standards of their team and to direct the players to behave in accordance with the principles of fair play.

Both positive and negative factors in the behaviour of the team officials shall be included in the assessment, such as for instance whether they calm down angry players or how they accept the referee's decisions. Inciting or provoking players shall be rated negatively.

Cooperation with the media shall also be a factor in the assessment. Behaviour that is faultless but does not outwardly show any particularly positive attitude or gesture shall be given a mark of 4 rather than 5.

## 7. Behaviour of the crowd

Minimum 1 point

Maximum 5 points

The crowd is considered to be an integral part of a football match. Fans can contribute to the positive atmosphere of a match by encouraging their team by cheering and singing, etc. in the spirit of fair play.

Spectators are, however, expected to respect the opponents and the referee. They should appreciate the opponents' performance regardless of the result and in no way intimidate or frighten opponents, the referee or the opponents' supporters.

The maximum number of points (5) may only be awarded if all these requirements have been satisfied, especially with regard to creating a positive atmosphere.

This criterion is applicable only if a substantial number of fans of the team concerned are present. If the number of fans is negligible, "n.a." (not applicable) shall be entered under this item.

### III. Final assessment

1. The final assessment of a team is obtained as follows:

**a)** the points awarded are added together, e.g. for team A:

$$8 + 7 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 4 = 31$$

**b)** this total is divided by the maximum number of points possible (40):

$$31 \div 40 = 0.775$$

**c)** this figure is multiplied by 1,000:  $0.775 \times 1,000 = 775$

If, however, the number of fans supporting a certain team is negligible and the "behaviour of the crowd" criterion consequently disregarded ("n.a." – cf. art. II par. 7 of the fair play contest regulations), the maximum number of points obtainable will be 35.

Thus the final assessment would be attained as follows:

**a)** the points awarded are added together, e.g. for team B:

$$7 + 8 + 2 + 5 + 2 = 24$$

**b)** this total is divided by the maximum number of points possible (35):

$$24 \div 35 = 0.686$$

**c)** this figure is multiplied by 1,000:  $0.686 \times 1,000 = 686$

The overall assessment of a team during the final competition shall be calculated by adding the points attained at each match and dividing this figure by the number of matches played.

2. Teams that are eliminated after the group stage of the final competition shall be excluded from the fair play contest.

In addition to making the assessment, members of FIFA may give a short oral account of the teams' fair play performance to explain the positive and negative factors, which form the basis of their assessment. The account may also point out any outstanding gestures of fair play from a player, official, referee or any other person. However, no additional points shall be awarded for such gestures .

These Regulations were approved by the FIFA Executive Committee 21 March 2013 and came into force immediately thereafter.

The previous version of these Regulations shall apply mutatis mutandis to any matters that arose before these Regulations came into force.

Zurich, March 2013

For the FIFA Executive Committee

President:  
Joseph S. Blatter

Secretary General:  
Jérôme Valcke



