FIFA
For the Game. For the World.

TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1484

Zurich, 30 April 2015
SG/mav/oon

Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players – Categorisation of clubs, registration periods and eligibility

Dear Sir or Madam,

As in prior years, we again refer you to Annexe 4, in particular art. 4 of Annexe 4 of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (hereinafter: *the Regulations*). We also refer you to art. 6 par. 1 and 2 of the Regulations. These Regulations deal with compensating clubs for the training of young players, classifying clubs into categories and fixing registration periods in your association.

In this respect, we also refer you to Annexe 3 of the Regulations, and in particular to its art. 5.1 par. 1 and 2. We emphasise that the transfer matching system (TMS) is mandatory for all member associations of FIFA. Both the notification of the registration periods fixed by your association as well as the categorisation of clubs that are participating in TMS, as established by your association, must be noted and recorded in TMS. For those clubs that are not participating in TMS (such as purely amateur clubs), notification of categorisation must be conducted by way of written communication to the FIFA Players' Status and Governance Department.

Finally, reference shall be made to art. 5 par. 3 of the Regulations regarding the maximum number of clubs a player may be registered and is eligible to play official matches for during one season.

1. Training compensation

With regard to **training compensation**, the Regulations stipulate that each association must classify its clubs into different categories based on the extent of each club's expenditure for training of young players. The category specified must be reviewed every year. The enclosed table shows the categories into which the associations in each confederation are required to divide their clubs and the amount of compensation applicable to the various club categories in each confederation.

Please ensure that, once again, you classify your clubs into the categories shown in the table. If all of your clubs come under category IV, you will not need to classify any of your clubs. FIFA will publish the compensation for training in the various categories and the club classifications of each association on the FIFA website.

./...

Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FIFA-Strasse 20 P.O. Box 8044 Zurich Switzerland T: +41 (0)43 222 7777 F: +41 (0)43 222 7878 FIFA.com

Each association is kindly requested to insert the relevant data concerning the categorisation of its affiliated clubs concerned into TMS **by no later than 1 July 2015**. Please do not use any other form or means to notify your clubs' categorisation, unless the club is not listed in the TMS. In the latter case, notification of categorisation by means of written communication to the FIFA Players' Status and Governance Department is to be conducted within the same deadline. As regards clubs participating in TMS, we would like to point out that only the categorisation of clubs inserted into TMS will be taken into consideration and will prevail over any conflicting categorisation received for a TMS-participating club through other means.

In this regard, please be informed that in the event that you do not complete the relevant categorisation of your affiliated clubs in TMS by the above-mentioned deadline, further proceedings imposing appropriate measures against your association will be evaluated. We refer you in particular to the FIFA TMS administrative sanction procedure outlined in FIFA circular no. 1259 of 7 April 2011.

2. Registration periods

Furthermore, each association is kindly requested to insert the two annual **registration periods** it has fixed for the next calendar year, i.e. as of 1 January 2016, in accordance with art. 6 par. 1 and 2 of the Regulations into TMS **by no later than 1 July 2015** or, in the event that your association's current season finishes after that date, immediately following the last day of the current season. Please do not use any other form or means to notify your association's registration periods. In particular, do not reply in writing to this circular letter. We remind you that all associations must specify general registration periods, irrespective of the status of your association's affiliated clubs or their transfer activity to date.

According to art. 6 par. 2 in conjunction with art. 5.1 par. 1 of Annexe 3 of the Regulations, the two registration periods for the season shall be communicated to FIFA via TMS at least 12 months before they come into force. Therefore, your association is required to insert into TMS all applicable registration periods to the date of 31 December 2016.

In this respect, we wish to remind you that art. 6 par. 2 of the Regulations states that the first registration period shall begin after the completion of the season and shall normally end before the beginning of the new season. This period may not exceed **twelve weeks**. The second registration period shall normally occur in the middle of the season and may not exceed **four weeks**. However, with regard to the second registration period, a period of one calendar month (therefore slightly more than four weeks) has been recognised in practice by FIFA. FIFA does not, however, permit these time limits to be prolonged for organisational or any other reasons.

When fixing your registration periods, particular attention should be given to their end date. If the end date is a holiday or non-business day in your country, you will not be able to extend the duration of the relevant registration period to the first subsequent business day if the extension would result in your association exceeding the maximum duration of registration periods (i.e. either twelve weeks or four weeks) as noted above.

In the event that you do not complete the notification of your association's registration periods in TMS by the above-mentioned deadline (by 1 July 2015), FIFA itself may set the dates for your association. Furthermore, proceedings imposing appropriate measures against your association will be evaluated. Once again, we refer you in particular to the FIFA circular no. 1259. The registration periods are a key principle of the Regulations, so no exceptions may be made to them being properly fixed.

We would like to emphasise that it is the sole responsibility of the TMS manager of each association to make sure that the pertinent registration periods are properly inserted into the system in accordance with the decisions of their respective association. Only the dates included in TMS will be considered, irrespective of divergent communications made outside TMS.

Furthermore, we would like to point out that the TMS manager of the association is responsible for the accuracy of the data inserted into TMS. Under exceptional circumstances, the respective TMS manager may change the dates of a registration period, however only in circumstances where the registration period in question has not yet started. No alteration will be possible once the registration period inserted into TMS has commenced. It goes without saying that the system will only allow registration periods in accordance with art. 6 par. 2 of the Regulations.

In this respect, we would like to remind you that, pursuant to art. 9.1 par. 3 of Annexe 3 of the Regulations, associations are liable for the actions and information entered by their TMS managers.

If your association wishes to fix separate registration periods for its pure amateur competitions, i.e. competitions in which only amateurs participate, on the basis of art. 6 par. 4 of the Regulations, it is invited to inform FIFA of the relevant dates by means of a respective correspondence, again no later than **1 July 2015**. In fact, such possible registration periods cannot to be inserted in the TMS.

3. Maximum number of clubs a player may be registered and is eligible to play official matches for during one season

In conclusion, we would like to highlight that, in principle, the registration of players for their clubs falls under the competence of each association, while due attention must be paid to the provisions contained in the Regulations which are binding at national level (cf. art. 1 par. 2 and par. 3 a) of the Regulations). In accordance with art. 1 par. 3 a) of the Regulations, associations are, *inter alia*, required to include, without modification, art. 5 par. 3 of the Regulations in their own national regulations.

In this context, we would also like to remind you that it is the responsibility of the association concerned to ensure that its own national regulations as well as the provisions of the Regulations that are binding at national level are respected and applied uniformly, and that attempts to circumvent them are suppressed accordingly. Furthermore, we wish to emphasise that, in any case, it remains the relevant association's responsibility to duly consider the sporting integrity of its competitions.

Having said that, we would like to recall that according to art. 5 par. 3 of the Regulations players may be registered with a maximum of three clubs during one season and during this period they are only eligible to play official matches for two clubs. As an exception to

this rule, a player who is moving between two clubs belonging to associations with overlapping seasons, i.e. start of the season in summer/autumn as opposed to spring/winter, may be eligible to play in official matches for a third club during the relevant season, however, only provided the other conditions stipulated in the provision in question have been complied with. In particular, the provisions relating to registration periods (cf. art. 6 of the Regulations) must be respected.

In view of the above, and in order to avoid any potential issues related to the application of art. 5 par. 3 of the Regulations, we kindly ask you to inform your affiliated clubs, in particular those intending to sign new players, accordingly.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions in connection with any of the above.

We thank you for your valuable collaboration.

Yours faithfully,

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Markus Kattner
Deputy Secretary General

Encl. as mentioned

cc: FIFA Executive Committee
Players' Status Committee
Dispute Resolution Chamber
Confederations

Legal

FIFA
For the Game. For the World.

Training Costs and Categorisation of clubs for the year 2015

The training costs listed hereunder are established on a confederation basis for each category of clubs. In accordance with art. 4 of Annexe 4 of the Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players, these training costs will be updated at the end of every calendar year.

Confederation	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
AFC		USD 40,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
CAF		USD 30,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
CONCACAF		USD 40,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
CONMEBOL	USD 50,000	USD 30,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
OFC		USD 30,000	USD 10,000	USD 2,000
UEFA	EURO 90,000	EURO 60,000	EURO 30,000	EURO 10,000

In continuation, you will find a table for each confederation, setting out the categories in which each association is asked to allocate its clubs. No allocation will be required if all your clubs fall under category 4.

Index:

Table 1 – AFC

Table 2 – CAF

Table 3 – CONCACAF

Table 4 – CONMEBOL

Table 5 - OFC

Table 6 – UEFA

FIFA
For the Game. For the World.

TABLE 1 - AFC

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Afghanistan				X
Australia		X	X	X
Bahrain				X
Bangladesh				X
Bhutan				X
Brunei Darussalam				X
Cambodia				X
China PR			X	X
China Taipei				X
Guam				X
Hong Kong				X
India				X
Indonesia				X
Iran		X	X	X
Iraq			X	X
Japan		X	X	X
Jordan				X
Korea DPR				X
Korea Republic		X	X	X
Kuwait			X	X
Kyrgyzstan				X
Laos				X
Lebanon			X	X
Macao				X
Malaysia			X	X
Maldives				X
Mongolia				X
Myanmar				X
Nepal				X

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Oman				X
Pakistan				X
Palestine				X
Philippines				X
Qatar			X	X
Saudia Arabia			X	X
Singapore			X	X
Sri Lanka				X
Syria				X
Tajikistan				X
Thailand				X
Turkmenistan				X
United Arab Emirates			X	X
Uzbekistan				X
Vietnam				X
Yemen				X

FIFA
For the Game. For the World.

TABLE 2 - CAF

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Algeria		X	X	X
Angola				X
Benin				X
Botswana				X
Burkina Faso				X
Burundi			X	X
Cameroon		X	X	X
Cape Verde Islands				X
Central African Republic				X
Chad				X
Congo				X
Congo DR				X
Côte d'Ivoire		X	X	X
Djibouti				X
Egypt		X	X	X
Equatorial Guinea				X
Eritrea				X
Ethiopia				X
Gabon				X
Gambia			X	X
Ghana		X	X	X
Guinea				X
Guinea-Bissau				X
Kenya				X
Lesotho				X
Liberia				X
Libya			X	X
Madagascar				X
Malawi				X

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Mali			X	X
Mauritania				X
Mauritius				X
Morocco		X	X	X
Mozambique				X
Namibia				X
Niger				X
Nigeria		X	X	X
Rwanda			X	X
São Tomé e Príncipe				X
Senegal		X	X	X
Seychelles				X
Sierra Leone				X
Somalia				X
South Africa		X	X	X
Sudan			X	X
Swaziland				X
Tanzania				X
Togo			X	X
Tunisia		X	X	X
Uganda				X
Zambia				X
Zimbabwe				X

FIFA
For the Game. For the World.

TABLE 3 - CONCACAF

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Anguilla				X
Antigua and Barbuda				X
Aruba				X
Bahamas				X
Barbados				X
Belize				X
Bermuda				X
British Virgin Islands				X
Canada			X	X
Cayman Islands				X
Costa Rica		X	X	X
Cuba				X
Dominica				X
Dominican Republic				X
El Salvador			X	X
Grenada				X
Guatemala		X	X	X
Guyana				X
Haiti				X
Honduras			X	X
Jamaica			X	X
Mexico		X	X	X
Montserrat				X
Netherlands Antilles				X
Nicaragua				X
Panama				X
Puerto Rico				X
St. Kitts and Nevis				X
St. Lucia				X
St. Vincent / Grenadines				X
Surinam				X
Trinidad and Tobago			X	X
Turks and Caicos Islands				X
USA		X	X	X
US Virgin Islands				X

FIFA
For the Game. For the World.

TABLE 4 - CONMEBOL

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Argentina	X	X	X	X
Bolivia			X	X
Brazil	X	X	X	X
Chile		X	X	X
Colombia			X	X
Ecuador			X	X
Paraguay			X	X
Peru			X	X
Uruguay		X	X	X
Venezuela			X	X

TABLE 5 - OFC

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
American Samoa				X
Cook Islands				X
Fiji				X
New Caledonia				X
New Zealand			X	X
Papua New Guinea				X
Samoa				X
Solomon Islands				X
Tahiti				X
Tonga				X
Vanuatu				X

FIFA
For the Game. For the World.

TABLE 6 - UEFA

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Albania			X	X
Andorra				X
Armenia			X	X
Austria		X	X	X
Azerbaijan			X	X
Belarus			X	X
Belgium		X	X	X
Bosnia-Herzegovina			X	X
Bulgaria			X	X
Croatia			X	X
Cyprus			X	X
Czech Republic			X	X
Denmark		X	X	X
England	X	X	X	X
Estonia			X	X
Faroe Islands				X
Finland			X	X
France	X	X	X	X
Georgia			X	X
Germany	X	X	X	X
Greece		X	X	X
Hungary		X	X	X
Iceland			X	X
Republic of Ireland		X	X	X
Israel			X	X
Italy	X	X	X	X
Kazakhstan			X	X
Latvia			X	X
Liechtenstein				X

National Association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Lithuania			X	X
Luxembourg			X	X
FYR Macedonia			X	X
Malta			X	X
Moldova			X	X
Netherlands	X	X	X	X
Northern Ireland			X	X
Norway		X	X	X
Poland			X	X
Portugal		X	X	X
Romania			X	X
Russia		X	X	X
San Marino				X
Scotland		X	X	X
Serbia and Montenegro		X	X	X
Slovakia			X	X
Slovenia			X	X
Spain	X	X	X	X
Sweden		X	X	X
Switzerland		X	X	X
Turkey		X	X	X
Ukraine		X	X	X
Wales			X	X