

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1763

Zurich, 1 July 2021

SG/emo/jud

Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players – categorisation of clubs, registration periods, and international transfers of minor players

Dear Sir or Madam,

As in previous years, we kindly refer you to those articles of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (**the Regulations**) that address training compensation, classifying clubs into categories, and registration periods.

As you are aware, the use of the Transfer Matching System (**TMS**) is mandatory for all associations. The registration periods and categorisation of clubs established by your association must be recorded in TMS. For those clubs that are not registered in TMS (such as purely amateur clubs), FIFA must be notified of their categories in writing.

1. Training compensation: categorisation of clubs

Each association must classify its affiliated clubs into different categories in TMS by **15 July 2021**, based on each club's financial investment in training players (cf. art. 4 par. 1 of Annexe 4 to the Regulations).

If an affiliated club is not registered in TMS, please notify FIFA of its category in writing at psdfifa@fifa.org **by 15 July 2021**.

The category specified shall **be valid for the entirety of the relevant season**. Associations are not permitted to amend the category of a club during a season.

The enclosed table shows the categories available to each association to categorise its affiliated clubs, and the training costs (cf. art. 4 par. 2 of Annexe 4 to the Regulations) applicable.

FIFA will only recognise the category assigned to a club in TMS. This shall prevail over any conflicting categorisation.

If an association does not categorise its affiliated clubs in TMS by the established deadline, it may be subject to compliance proceedings. We refer you to the administrative sanction procedure (**ASP**) outlined in FIFA circular no. [1478](#) of 6 March 2015.

2. Setting registration periods

Professional competitions

Each association must set the two **registration periods** for the next calendar year (i.e. 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022), in accordance with art. 6 pars 1 and 2 of the Regulations, in TMS **by 15 July 2021**.

In the event that an association's current season finishes after that date, it must set the two registration periods immediately following the last day of the current season (cf. FIFA circular nos [1743](#) of 14 December 2020 and [1752](#) of 26 March 2021).

Associations may set different registration periods for their male and female competitions (cf. FIFA circular no. [1601](#) of 31 October 2017).

Pursuant to art. 6 par. 2 read with art. 5.1 par. 1 of Annexe 3 to the Regulations, the start and end dates of both registration periods and of the season must be communicated to FIFA via TMS **at least 12 months before they come into force**.

Regarding the timing of registration periods, please note that:

- The first registration period shall begin on the first day of the season and may not exceed **12 weeks**.
- The second registration period shall normally occur in the middle of the season and may not exceed **four weeks**.
- In line with FIFA circular no. [1752](#) of 26 March 2021, seasons and registration periods that take place in 2021 are not required to comply with the amendments to the Regulations that came into force on 1 January 2021 (specifically with regard to the new definition of the term "season" and the amendment to art. 6 par. 2 of the Regulations), which were previously outlined in FIFA circular no. [1743](#) of 14 December 2020.
- When fixing registration periods, each association must pay particular attention to their end date. If the end date of a registration period is a holiday or non-business day in the country or territory of the association's domicile, it will not be possible to extend it to the next business day if this would result in the association exceeding the relevant maximum duration.
- If an association does not set the registration periods for competitions played by a particular gender, the registration periods established for the other gender will not automatically apply. **The association will not be able to register players where no registration period has been defined.**
- The temporary amendments adopted by the FIFA Council in light of the COVID-19 pandemic – in particular, those to art 5.1 of Annexe 3 to the Regulations – provide some flexibility regarding registration periods.

If an association does not set its registration periods in TMS by 15 July 2021, FIFA itself may set the dates (cf. art. 6 par. 2 of the Regulations). The failure to set registration periods may also result in an ASP.

It is the sole responsibility of each association to ensure that accurate registration periods are properly entered in TMS. Only the dates included in TMS will be recognised by FIFA, irrespective of any communication made outside the system. Where a registration period has not yet started, and in exceptional circumstances, it is possible to change its dates. Once a registration period has started, it is not possible to change its dates.

Amateur competitions

Each association must set the **registration periods** for the next calendar year (i.e. 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022), in accordance with art. 6 par 4 of the Regulations, in TMS **by 15 July 2021**.

Please note that:

- The provisions related to the maximum duration of registration periods do not apply to purely amateur competitions. Therefore, associations may decide to set a single registration period covering the entire season for purely amateur competitions.
- If an association fails to set registration periods for competitions in which only amateur players participate, it will not be possible to register players for clubs participating in those competitions. The registration periods for professional competitions do not apply to competitions in which only amateur players participate.

3. Administrative procedure for the international transfer of minor players

We would like to clarify certain aspects of the administrative procedure governing the international transfer of minor players.

As you may know, where an international transfer of a minor player is due to take place, two separate procedures must be conducted in TMS:

- The relevant association must submit a minor application (cf. art. 19 par. 4 of the Regulations).
- A transfer instruction must be processed in accordance with Annexe 3 to the Regulations.

Following a technical update to TMS (release 10.2), **transfer instructions related to the international transfer of a minor player may be confirmed by the clubs concerned at any time.** Doing so no longer depends on the status of the relevant minor application (thus revoking the procedure described in FIFA circular no. [1587](#) of 13 June 2017).

Regardless of the above, the new association's ability to request an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) for a minor player **remains dependent** on the status of the associated minor application.

Therefore, a club intending to register a minor player must **comply with all its obligations prior to the end of the applicable registration period** (subject to the exceptions under art. 6 par. 1 of the Regulations), as per the applicable provisions of Annexe 3 to the Regulations.

Independently from the relevant minor application, in accordance with art. 19 par. 4 (a) of the Regulations, a club intending to register a minor player shall undertake the following actions prior to the end of the applicable registration period:

- (i) enter a transfer instruction (cf. art. 4 par. 2 read with art. 8.2 par. 1 of Annexe 3 to the Regulations);
- (ii) provide all compulsory data (cf. art. 4 par. 3 read with art. 8.2 par. 1 of Annexe 3 to the Regulations);
- (iii) upload all mandatory documents to support the information entered (cf. art. 4 par. 4 read with art. 8.2 par. 1 of Annexe 3 to the Regulations);
- (iv) confirm the relevant transfer instruction (cf. art. 4 par. 4 read with art. 8.2 par. 1 of Annexe 3 to the Regulations); and
- (v) where applicable, resolve any matching exceptions (cf. art. 4 par. 5 read with art. 8.2 par. 1 of Annexe 3 to the Regulations).

For clubs that are not registered in TMS, these actions must be completed by their association, if the minor player will be registered as an amateur (cf. art. 1 par. 6 of Annexe 3 to the Regulations).

Associations remain responsible for requesting an ITC in a timely manner (cf. art. 8.1 par. 2 of Annexe 3 to the Regulations) upon notification of a decision approving a minor application. Where an approval decision is notified to an association after the end of the applicable registration period, the association may be entitled to request the ITC outside that registration period.

We kindly ask that your affiliated clubs ensure that all transfer instructions related to minor players are completed (i.e. entered, confirmed and matched) in a timely manner.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Players' Status Department at psdfifa@fifa.org if you have any questions in connection with any of the above.

We thank you for your valuable collaboration.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Samoura', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

Encl. as mentioned

cc: - FIFA Council
- Confederations
- Football Stakeholders Committee
- ECA
- FIFPRO
- World Leagues Forum

FIFA[®]

Training costs and categorisation of clubs for 2021



Training costs and categorisation of clubs for 2021

The training costs listed below are established on a confederation basis for each category of club. In accordance with art. 4 of Annexe 4 to the Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players, these training costs are 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	EUR 90,000	EUR 60,000	EUR 30,000	EUR 10,000

Please find below a table for each confederation, setting out the categories in which each association is asked to classify its clubs.

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TABLE 1 – AFC

Member 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
Chinese Taipei				X
Guam				X
Hong Kong				X
India				X
Indonesia				X
IR Iran		X	X	X
Iraq			X	X
Japan		X	X	X
Jordan				X
Korea DPR				X
Korea Republic		X	X	X
Kuwait			X	X
Kyrgyz Republic				X
Laos				X
Lebanon			X	X
Macau				X
Malaysia			X	X
Maldives				X
Mongolia				X
Myanmar				X
Nepal				X

Member association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Oman				X
Pakistan				X
Palestine				X
Philippines				X
Qatar			X	X
Saudi Arabia			X	X
Singapore			X	X
Sri Lanka				X
Syria				X
Tajikistan				X
Thailand				X
Timor-Leste				X
Turkmenistan				X
United Arab Emirates			X	X
Uzbekistan				X
Vietnam				X
Yemen				X

TABLE 2 – CAF

Member 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
Cabo Verde				X
Cameroon		X	X	X
Central African Republic				X
Chad				X
Comoros				X
Congo				X
Congo DR				X
Côte d'Ivoire		X	X	X
Djibouti				X
Egypt		X	X	X
Equatorial Guinea				X
Eritrea				X
Eswatini				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

Member 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 and Príncipe				X
Senegal		X	X	X
Seychelles				X
Sierra Leone				X
Somalia				X
South Africa		X	X	X
South Sudan				X
Sudan			X	X
Tanzania				X
Togo			X	X
Tunisia		X	X	X
Uganda				X
Zambia				X
Zimbabwe				X

TABLE 3 – Concacaf

Member 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
Curaçao				X
Dominica				X
Dominican Republic				X
El Salvador			X	X
Grenada				X
Guatemala		X	X	X
Guyana				X
Haiti				X
Honduras			X	X
Jamaica			X	X
Mexico		X	X	X
Montserrat				X
Nicaragua				X
Panama				X
Puerto Rico				X
St Kitts and Nevis				X
St Lucia				X
St Vincent and the Grenadines				X
Suriname				X
Trinidad and Tobago			X	X
Turks and Caicos Islands				X
USA		X	X	X
US Virgin Islands				X

TABLE 4 – CONMEBOL

Member 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

Member 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

TABLE 6 – UEFA

Member 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	X
Bosnia and Herzegovina			X	X
Bulgaria			X	X
Croatia			X	X
Cyprus			X	X
Czech Republic			X	X
Denmark		X	X	X
England	X	X	X	X
Estonia			X	X
Faroe Islands				X
Finland			X	X
France	X	X	X	X
Georgia			X	X
Germany	X	X	X	X
Gibraltar				X
Greece		X	X	X
Hungary		X	X	X
Iceland			X	X
Israel			X	X
Italy	X	X	X	X
Kazakhstan			X	X
Kosovo			X	X
Latvia			X	X

Member association	Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV
Liechtenstein				X
Lithuania			X	X
Luxembourg			X	X
Malta			X	X
Moldova			X	X
Montenegro				X
Netherlands	X	X	X	X
North Macedonia			X	X
Northern Ireland			X	X
Norway		X	X	X
Poland			X	X
Portugal		X	X	X
Republic of Ireland		X	X	X
Romania			X	X
Russia		X	X	X
San Marino				X
Scotland		X	X	X
Serbia			X	X
Slovakia			X	X
Slovenia			X	X
Spain	X	X	X	X
Sweden		X	X	X
Switzerland		X	X	X
Turkey		X	X	X
Ukraine		X	X	X
Wales			X	X