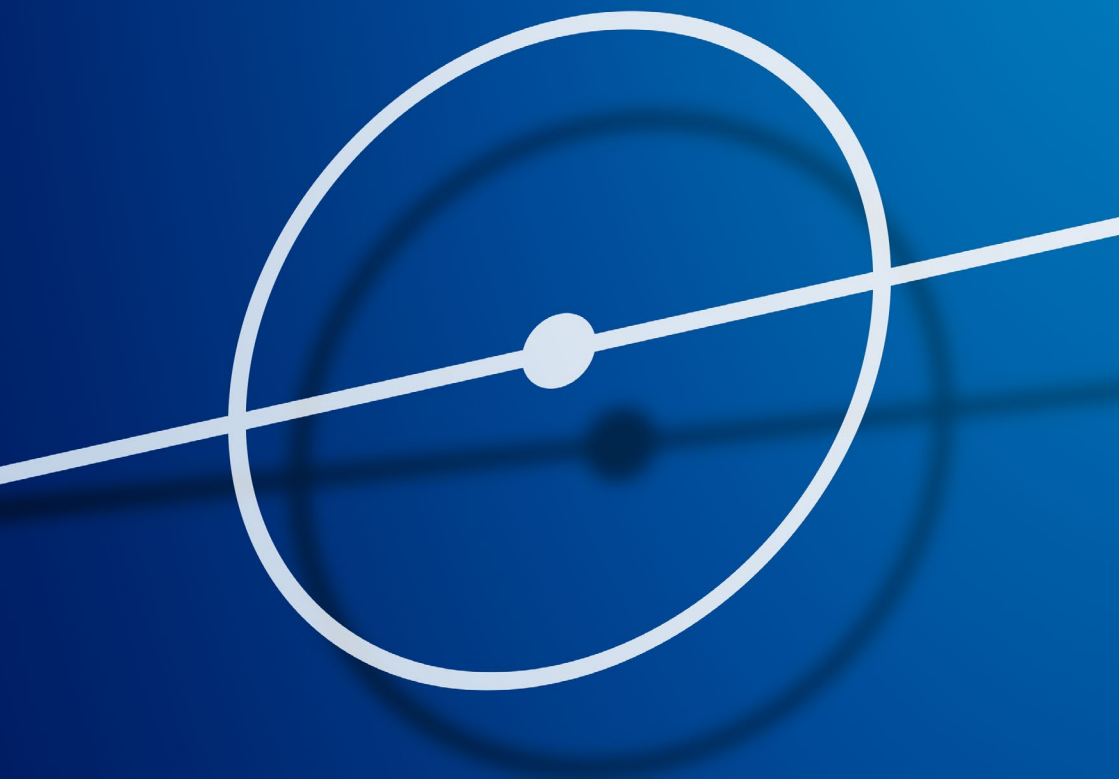


FIFA®



REGULATIONS

FIFA U-17 World Cup Indonesia 2023™

OCTOBER 2023



Fédération Internationale de Football Association

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NB: Terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders.



GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1: FIFA U-17 World Cup™

- 1.1 The FIFA U-17 World Cup™ (“World Cup”) is a FIFA competition embodied in the FIFA regulations.
- 1.2 As a general rule, every association affiliated to FIFA may participate in the World Cup.
- 1.3 Participation in the World Cup is free of charge.
- 1.4 The World Cup consists of a preliminary competition and a final competition.
- 1.5 Any rights that are not ceded by the Regulations for the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023™ (“Regulations”) to the Organising Association/Local Organising Committee or any Participating Member Association or to a confederation shall remain with FIFA.
- 1.6 These Regulations regulate the rights, duties and responsibilities of all associations taking part in the final competition of the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023™ (“World Cup 2023”) and of the Organising Association/Local Organising Committee by forming an integral part of the Hosting Agreement (“HA”). The Regulations and all guidelines and circulars issued by FIFA are binding for all parties participating and involved in the preparation, organisation and hosting of the World Cup 2023.
- 1.7 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.
- 1.8 Other rules and/or decisions that are binding on FIFA (e.g. due to FIFA being a signatory to the World Anti-Doping Code) may apply to the subject matter of these Regulations. Any such rules and/or decisions implemented by FIFA shall take precedence over these Regulations in the event of any conflict and must be complied with by each Participating Member Association.

Article 2: Preliminary competition

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

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

2.3 In the event that a preliminary competition is not held or completed in a manner that determines the relevant number of qualifying member associations (due to cancellation, postponement, abandonment or otherwise), then the applicable confederation shall propose to FIFA, for FIFA's prior written approval, a member association (or member associations) located on the confederation's territory as its Participating Member Association(s). The confederation shall base its proposal strictly on the sporting merits of the member association(s) and shall provide a written report to FIFA explaining the reasons for proposing the member association(s) when seeking FIFA's approval. In the event that FIFA does not approve the confederation's proposed member association(s), the confederation shall propose an alternative member association (or member associations) for FIFA's approval.

Article 3: Organising Committee for FIFA Competitions

- 3.1 The Organising Committee for FIFA Competitions (the "FIFA Organising Committee"), appointed by the FIFA Council, is responsible for organising the World Cup 2023 in accordance with the FIFA Statutes and the FIFA Governance Regulations.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 The FIFA Organising Committee shall deal with any aspect of the World Cup 2023 that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations, the FIFA Statutes or the FIFA Governance Regulations.
- 3.4 The decisions taken by the FIFA Organising Committee and/or its bureau/ sub-committee are final and binding and not subject to appeal.



Article 4: Organising Association/Local Organising Committee – responsibilities

- 4.1 The FIFA Council will appoint one or more FIFA member association(s) (“Organising Association(s)”) as the host(s) of the World Cup 2023.
- 4.2 The Organising Association is responsible for organising, hosting and staging the World Cup 2023. It shall set up a Local Organising Committee (“LOC”) in accordance with the HA. The Organising Association and the LOC shall be subject to the control of FIFA. All FIFA decisions are final.
- 4.3 The obligations and responsibilities of the Organising Association with respect to the World Cup 2023 are stipulated but not limited to the HA, and any other agreements entered into between FIFA and the Organising Association.
- 4.4 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 2023.
- 4.5 The Organising Association shall ensure that any decision taken by FIFA relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

Article 5: Participating Member Associations – responsibilities

- 5.1 The associations that qualify for the World Cup 2023 (the “Participating Member Associations”) automatically undertake to comply with and ensure that every Delegation Member (players, coaches, managers, officials, media officers, representatives, guests and any other person carrying out duties throughout the World Cup 2023, and for the entire duration of their stay in the host country, on behalf of a Participating Member Association) complies with these Regulations, the Laws of the Game, the FIFA Statutes and FIFA's regulations, in particular the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Anti Doping Regulations, the FIFA Code of Ethics and the FIFA Equipment Regulations, as well as with any other FIFA circular letters, regulations, guidelines, directives and/or decisions.

In addition, every Delegation Member shall:

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

5.2 On entering the World Cup 2023, the Participating Member Associations automatically undertake to:

- a. observe and comply with these Regulations and ensure that each of their Delegation Members also observes and complies with these Regulations and the principles of fair play;
- b. observe and comply with the FIFA Statutes, as well as with any other FIFA regulations, directives, circular letters, guidelines and decisions as well as all applicable laws;
- c. observe and comply with all instructions and decisions taken by the bodies and officials of FIFA under the terms of these Regulations;
- d. participate in all matches of the World Cup 2023 in which their team is scheduled to take part;
- e. accept all of the arrangements relating to the World Cup 2023 made by the Organising Association in agreement with FIFA;
- f. accept the use by FIFA and/or the issue of a sub-licence by FIFA to third parties, as well as the recording and broadcast of the images, names and records of all Delegation Members that may appear in connection with the World Cup 2023; and
- 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.

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

- a. the conduct of its Delegation Members;
- b. paying for incidental costs and expenses incurred by its Delegation Members and any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf during the course of their stay in the host country;
- c. paying for any costs of extending the stay, before or after the World Cup 2023, of any Delegation Member or any other persons carrying out duties on its behalf;
- d. applying for visas and submitting the required documents in good time in accordance with the relevant procedure; and
- e. attending all media conferences and other media activities organised by FIFA in accordance with the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations, as well as with any other FIFA circular letters, guidelines, directives and/or decisions.



- 5.4** All Participating Member Associations shall confirm their participation in the World Cup 2023 by submitting the entry form and any other required documentation as communicated by FIFA via the corresponding circular(s), duly signed by the deadline(s) set by FIFA. The timely submission to FIFA of any such documents is of the essence. If a Participating Member Association fails to adhere to the time limits and/or fails to meet the formal requirements for submitting the necessary documents, the FIFA Organising Committee shall pass a decision.
- 5.5** 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.

Article 6: Withdrawal, unplayed matches, abandoned matches and replacement

- 6.1** All Participating Member Associations undertake to play all of their matches until eliminated from the World Cup 2023.
- 6.2** Any Participating Member Association that withdraws from the World Cup 2023 no later than 30 days before the opening match thereof shall be fined at least CHF 15,000 by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee. Any Participating Member Association that withdraws from the World Cup 2023 fewer than 30 days before the opening match thereof shall be fined at least CHF 20,000 by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.
- 6.3** Depending on the circumstances of the withdrawal, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee may impose additional disciplinary measures, including the expulsion of the Participating Member Association concerned from subsequent FIFA competitions.
- 6.4** Any match which is not played or which is abandoned – except in cases of force majeure recognised by FIFA – may lead to the imposition of disciplinary measures against the relevant associations by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

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

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

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

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

6.8 If any Participating Member Association withdraws or is excluded from the World Cup 2023, FIFA shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion and take whatever action is deemed necessary. The FIFA Organising Committee may in particular decide to replace the association in question with another association.

6.9 FIFA has the right to cancel, reschedule or relocate one or more matches (or the entire FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023) for any reason at its sole discretion, including as a result of force majeure or due to health, safety or security concerns.





DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Article 7: Disciplinary matters

- 7.1 Disciplinary infringements are dealt with in compliance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code in force as well as with all relevant circulars and directives, with which the Participating Member Associations and Delegation Members undertake to comply.
- 7.2 FIFA may introduce new disciplinary rules and measures for the duration of the World Cup 2023. Such rules shall be communicated to the Participating Member Associations before the opening match of the World Cup 2023 at the latest.

Article 8: Disputes

- 8.1 All disputes in connection with the World Cup 2023 shall be promptly settled by mediation (with the exception of those falling under article 7 above).
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 The Participating Member Associations and Delegation Members acknowledge and accept that, once all internal channels have been exhausted at FIFA, their sole recourse shall be to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, unless excluded or if the decision is declared final and binding and not subject to appeal. Any such arbitration proceedings shall be governed by the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration.

Article 9: Protests

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 Unless otherwise stipulated in this article, protests shall be submitted in writing to the FIFA Match Director within two hours of the match in question, as well as via the FIFA Legal Portal at legalportal.fifa.com (cf. article 18 paragraph 1 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code) within 24 hours of the end of the match, otherwise they shall be disregarded.
- 9.3 Protests regarding the eligibility of players nominated for matches shall be submitted via the FIFA Legal Portal at legalportal.fifa.com (cf. article 18 paragraph 1 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code) no later than five days before the first match of the World Cup 2023. Such protests shall be dealt with by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee.



- 9.4 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 Match Director by the head of the team delegation no later than two hours after the match.
- 9.5 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 Match Director by the head of the team delegation no later than two hours after the match.
- 9.6 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.
- 9.7 If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee may impose disciplinary measures against the Participating Member Association concerned.
- 9.8 If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations (and in the FIFA Disciplinary Code, where applicable) are not met, such protest shall be disregarded by the competent body. Once the final match of the World Cup 2023 has ended, any protests described in this article shall be disregarded. Notwithstanding the above, the FIFA Disciplinary Committee remains competent to prosecute any disciplinary infringement *ex officio*, as established in the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
- 9.9 FIFA shall pass decisions on any protests lodged, subject to the exceptions stipulated in these Regulations, the FIFA Statutes or any other FIFA regulations.

Article 10: Yellow and red cards

- 10.1 The referee has the authority to take disciplinary action from entering the field of play for the pre-match inspection until leaving the field of play after the match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark). If, before entering the field of play at the start of the match, a player or team official commits a sending-off offence, the referee has the authority to prevent the player or team official taking part in the match (see Laws of the Game, Law 12.3); the referee will report any other misconduct.

- 10.2 Single yellow cards and pending suspensions as a consequence of cautions in different matches in the preliminary competition organised by the confederations are not carried over to the World Cup 2023. Pending match suspensions imposed as a result of a red card in matches in the preliminary competition organised by the confederations are carried over to the World Cup 2023.
- 10.3 Single yellow cards in the World Cup 2023 will be cancelled after the quarter-finals.
- 10.4 If a player or team official receives two cautions during two different matches, they will automatically be suspended from their team's subsequent match.
- 10.5 If a player or team official is sent off as a result of a direct or indirect red card, they will automatically be suspended from their team's subsequent match. In addition, further sanctions may be imposed in the case of a direct red card.
- 10.6 Any suspension that cannot be served during the World Cup 2023 will be carried over to the representative team's next official match in the same age group. Where the suspension cannot be served in the same age group, it shall be carried over to the next highest age group.





COMPETITION FORMAT

Article 11: Number of teams

The number of teams taking part in the World Cup 2023 has been fixed at 24, to be apportioned among the confederations as follows:

Confederation	Number of slots
AFC	4
CAF	4
Concacaf	4
CONMEBOL	4
OFC	2
UEFA	5
Host	1

Article 12: Group and knockout stages

12.1 The World Cup 2023 will be played in a group stage, followed by the round of 16, quarter-finals and semi-finals, the play-off for third place and the final.

12.2 The 24 participating teams will be divided into six groups of four teams. FIFA will seed the teams for the World Cup 2023 draw in accordance with the team ranking as established in the draw procedures. FIFA will divide the teams into groups by seeding and drawing lots in public, taking into account geographical and sporting considerations. The teams in the six groups will be designated as follows:

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



- 12.3 The group matches will be played following the schedule below. Each team plays each of the other teams in the same group once, according to a league system with three points for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a defeat.

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

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

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

2nd A v. 2nd C	=	Winner 1
1st D v. 3rd B/E/F	=	Winner 2
1st B v. 3rd A/C/D	=	Winner 3
1st F v. 2nd E	=	Winner 4
1st E v. 2nd D	=	Winner 5
1st C v. 3rd A/B/F	=	Winner 6
2nd B v. 2nd F	=	Winner 7
1st A v. 3rd C/D/E	=	Winner 8

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

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

If the four best third-placed teams are:	1A plays	1B plays	1C plays	1D plays
A B C D	3C	3D	3A	3B
A B C E	3C	3A	3B	3E
A B C F	3C	3A	3B	3F
A B D E	3D	3A	3B	3E
A B D F	3D	3A	3B	3F
A B E F	3E	3A	3B	3F
A C D E	3C	3D	3A	3E
A C D F	3C	3D	3A	3F
A C E F	3C	3A	3F	3E
A D E F	3D	3A	3F	3E
B C D E	3C	3D	3B	3E
B C D F	3C	3D	3B	3F
B C E F	3E	3C	3B	3F
B D E F	3E	3D	3B	3F
C D E F	3C	3D	3F	3E

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

- A: Winner 1 v. Winner 2**
- B: Winner 3 v. Winner 4**
- C: Winner 5 v. Winner 6**
- D: Winner 7 v. Winner 8**

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



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

Semi-final 1: Winner A v. Winner B
Semi-final 2: Winner C v. Winner D

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

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

Play-off for third place: Runner-up SF1 v. Runner-up SF2
Final: Winner SF1 v. Winner SF2

Article 13: Equal points and qualification for knockout stage

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

- **Step 1:**
 - a. superior goal difference in all group matches;
 - b. greatest number of goals scored in all group matches.
- **Step 2:**

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

- c. greatest number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned;
- d. superior goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;
- e. greatest number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;
- f. highest team conduct score (players and team officials) relating to the number of yellow and red cards obtained:

• yellow card:	minus 1 point
• indirect red card (as a result of two yellow cards):	minus 3 points
• direct red card:	minus 4 points
• yellow card and direct red card:	minus 5 points

Only one of the above deductions shall be applied to a player or team official in a single match. The team with the highest number of points shall be ranked highest.

- g. drawing of lots by FIFA.

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

- 13.2** The four best teams among those ranked third will be determined as follows:
- a. greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;
 - b. goal difference resulting from all group matches;
 - c. greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;
 - d. highest team conduct score (players and team officials) relating to the number of yellow and red cards obtained in all group matches and calculated as per step 2 (f) above;
 - e. drawing of lots by FIFA.

Article 14: Extra time and kicks from the penalty mark

- 14.1** In principle, in the group stage, the last matches in each group shall be played simultaneously.
- 14.2** In the knockout stages, if a match 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 in accordance with the procedure specified in the Laws of the Game.



04.

**COMPETITION
PREPARATION**

Article 15: Draw and Team Workshop

- 15.1** The draw for the World Cup 2023 shall, in principle, take place approximately two months prior to the opening match of the World Cup 2023.
- 15.2** In principle, the draw will be organised by FIFA and the Organising Association and will be combined with a Team Workshop, team venue inspection visits and other related activities. If the draw takes place in Zurich, the venue and details of the Team Workshop and team venue inspection visits will be communicated to the participating teams by circular letter and/or other form of official correspondence.
- 15.3** FIFA will cover the costs of return economy-class flights (from the capital city of the respective Participating Member Association to the city where the draw is taking place or, in exceptional cases, from another city as decided by FIFA) for two representatives – which should in principle be the head coach and main team administrator – of each participating team. In addition, FIFA will cover the costs of accommodation for two representatives for a maximum of three nights, which may be extended to four nights depending on the availability of flights. The LOC will cover the costs of any domestic transport (air, rail or road) from the city where the draw is taking place to the city where the team will play its first group match, so that the team can conduct a team venue visit in the city concerned. Any other costs shall be borne by the Participating Member Association concerned.
- 15.4** Should FIFA decide to host the draw in Zurich independently of the Team Workshop, all costs related to the Participating Member Association's attendance at the draw event shall be borne by the Participating Member Association concerned.

Article 16: Venues and kick-off times

- 16.1** The venues, dates and kick-off times of the matches shall be proposed by the Organising Association, subject to approval by FIFA.
- 16.2** The dates and venues of the matches shall be set, allowing each team a minimum rest period of 48 hours between matches. In principle, the last matchday matches of the group stage of the same group shall kick off simultaneously, unless stipulated otherwise by FIFA (i.e. in cases of force majeure).
- 16.3** If necessary, FIFA may decide to change kick off-times after the draw.



Article 17: Friendly matches

17.1 The last day on which a team may play a friendly match is five days before its first group match of the World Cup 2023, according to the procedure for approval of friendly matches established in the Regulations Governing International Matches.

17.2 In addition, the following rules apply to matches played in the host country:

- a. Matches in stadiums selected for use during the World Cup 2023 will be prohibited as of 14 days prior to the start of the World Cup 2023.
- b. The official training sites cannot be used for friendly matches as of 14 days prior to the start of the World Cup 2023.
- c. Teams drawn into the same group shall not play friendly matches against each other in the host country.
- d. No World Cup competition marks shall be used in relation to friendly matches, nor shall any other connection be drawn with the World Cup in any marketing, promotional or advertising materials produced for friendly matches.
- e. No entrance fee may be charged.
- f. Each team must respect the Media and Marketing Regulations, the Equipment Regulations and any other relevant FIFA regulations or guidelines.
- g. Friendly matches shall not be broadcast.
- h. The Participating Member Associations are not entitled to TV or marketing rights.

17.3 Each Participating Member Association playing friendly matches or organising a pre-tournament training camp in the host country shall be responsible for applying for visas for all members of its delegation.

Article 18: Team arrivals

18.1 Each team participating in the World Cup 2023 shall arrive at the venue of its first group match at least four days before the team's first match.

18.2 Only official team hotels under contract with FIFA shall be used for the teams' accommodation from four days before the team's first match and up to one day after its elimination.



**STADIUMS AND
TRAINING SITES**

Article 19: Stadiums

- 19.1 FIFA shall carry out stadium inspections in the period leading up to the World Cup 2023 to check whether the required structural criteria are met by the stadiums hosting the World Cup 2023. The FIFA administration shall accept or reject each stadium on the basis of several structural and safety criteria observed during the inspection visits and any other information gathered by FIFA. Such decisions are final.
- 19.2 The Organising Association shall provide FIFA with all documents confirming that the stadiums have been thoroughly inspected by the relevant public authorities and meet all the safety requirements laid down by the applicable national law and the FIFA Stadium Safety and Security Regulations.
- 19.3 The stadiums shall not be used for any other matches or events from at least 14 days prior to the start of the World Cup 2023 (or earlier if deemed necessary by FIFA if conditions require) and concluding at the earliest one day after the last scheduled match at the respective stadium, unless FIFA gives special permission.
- 19.4 All stadiums 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 World Cup 2023 until one day after the last scheduled match at the respective stadium.
- 19.5 As a general rule, World Cup 2023 matches may only be played in all-seater stadiums.
- 19.6 All matches shall be played under floodlights. 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 as specified in the Broadcast & Media Rights Technical Annexe in force. An emergency independent power system shall also be available in each stadium which, in the event of a power failure, guarantees the FIFA-specified intensity of light for the whole pitch and ensures emergency lighting in the whole stadium.
- 19.7 The FIFA Event Policy on Tobacco shall be complied with at the World Cup 2023 stadiums. If smoking areas are allowed by local legislation, FIFA reserves the right to determine if they shall be established.

Article 20: Pitches

- 20.1 Matches may be played on natural or artificial surfaces, subject to the approval of the FIFA Organising Committee. Where artificial surfaces are used, the surface must meet the requirements of the FIFA Quality Programme for Football Turf or the International Artificial Turf Standard. The training sites shall have the same type of turf as the stadium in the same Host City.

- 20.2 Unless otherwise approved by FIFA, the pitch shall have the following dimensions: length 105m, width 68m.
- 20.3 The pitch watering schedule and the height of the grass will be communicated by the FIFA Match Director at the Match Coordination Meeting. The FIFA Match Director, in consultation with the local pitch expert, shall define the grass height and watering schedule.
- 20.4 The field 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 goal posts and white goal nets with dark support posts and padding. Each stadium shall have spare goals, nets and corner flags located in close proximity to the field of play for contingency purposes.

Article 21: Stadium roof

- 21.1 If a stadium has a retractable roof, the FIFA Match Director shall decide before the match whether the roof shall be open or closed during the match. This decision shall be announced by the FIFA Match Director at the Match Coordination Meeting.
- 21.2 If the match starts with the roof open and there is a serious deterioration in the weather conditions impacting the match, the referee, in consultation with the FIFA Match Director, 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. The roof may only be opened or closed if there is no one on the pitch.

Article 22: Stadium clocks and giant screen

- 22.1 Clocks in the stadium showing the length of time played may run during the match, provided that they are stopped at the end of normal playing time in each half, i.e. after 45 and 90 minutes respectively.
- 22.2 Panels or electronic display boards, numbered on both sides for clarity, shall be used by the fourth official to indicate the substitution of players and the number of minutes to be allowed for time lost.
- 22.3 FIFA shall determine the conditions governing all scoreboard and giant screen transmissions.



Article 23: Training sites

- 23.1 In principle, the Organising Association shall provide two to four training sites per group of four teams. The training sites shall be approved by FIFA.
- 23.2 The training sites shall be made available as of four days before the first match in the venue until one day after the respective venue has hosted its last match in the World Cup 2023.
- 23.3 In principle, the teams shall use the training sites on a rotation basis in order to ensure that each team has the same conditions with regard to pitch quality and distance from team hotels. If the geographical location of a specific team hotel presents a disadvantageous distance to various training sites, FIFA may decide to pair the hotel in question with a specific training site. Full details about the allocation of training sites shall be communicated at the Team Workshop.
- 23.4 Unless otherwise approved by FIFA, all training-site pitches shall be in accordance with the pitch sizes for international matches specified in the Laws of the Game.
- 23.5 The training sites shall be situated within a reasonable driving distance by team bus from the team hotel, ideally within 30 minutes' drive.
- 23.6 The training sites shall have the same type of turf (artificial or natural) as the stadium in the same Host City. The pitches shall be in perfect condition, freshly mowed and fully marked in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
- 23.7 The Organising Association shall provide pitch maintenance personnel and suitable training-site equipment at all official training sites, including but not limited to cones, free-kick walls, speed ladders and portable goals. Each training site shall be equipped with at least one dressing room with lockers, showers and toilets. If the training site is situated within a 30-minute drive of the team hotel, only toilets shall be provided.
- 23.8 As from four days prior to their opening match of the World Cup 2023 and up to their elimination, the Participating Member Associations shall use only those training sites which have signed the official FIFA Training Site Agreement.
- 23.9 The FIFA Event Policy on Tobacco shall be complied with at the World Cup 2023 training sites. If smoking areas are allowed by local legislation, FIFA reserves the right to determine if they shall be established.



**PLAYERS' AND
OFFICIALS' LISTS**

Article 24: Eligibility

24.1 Each Participating Member Association shall ensure the following when selecting its representative team for the World Cup 2023:

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

24.2 Each Participating Member Association shall ensure that all players of its representative team meet the following age requirements:

- Upper age limit: all players must be a maximum of 17 years old by the end of the calendar year in which the World Cup 2023 is played (i.e. all players of the teams were born on or after 1 January 2006).
- Lower age limit: all players must be at least 15 years old by the end of the calendar year in which the World Cup 2023 is played (i.e. all players of the teams were born on or before 31 December 2008).

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

Article 25: Provisional list

25.1 Each Participating Member Association shall provide FIFA with a list of a minimum of 35 and no more than 55 players (four of whom shall be goalkeepers), accompanied by a copy of the passport of each player appearing on the list. The provisional list shall be submitted to FIFA by the deadline stipulated in the relevant circular letter.

25.2 The provisional list shall contain information such as the player's full last name(s), all first names, popular name, name on the shirt, date of birth, passport number and expiry date, name and country of the club, height and weight. Further details of the provisional list, and the deadline by which the list shall be submitted to FIFA, will be stipulated in the relevant circular letter.

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

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

25.5 Any change requests to the provisional list for exceptional cases must be submitted in writing before the final list deadline and are subject to FIFA's approval.

Article 26: Team Safeguarding/Welfare Officer

Each Participating Member Association shall appoint a designated Team Safeguarding/Welfare Officer to act as a focal point for all matters related to the safeguarding and well-being of the players and team delegation. This role does not have to be exclusive and can be assigned to the team medical doctor or other trained member of the accredited team delegation. It is a mandatory requirement that the designated Team Safeguarding/Welfare Officer complete the FIFA Guardians Safeguarding Essentials: Open Learners online course (<https://safeguardingsport.fifa.com/alumnos-independientes/>). The role of the Team Safeguarding/Welfare Officer is to:

- act as the first point of contact and lead for all safeguarding matters within the team delegation during the World Cup 2023;
- take all reasonable steps to ensure that the players' mental and physical well-being is prioritised;
- liaise with the Competition Safeguarding Manager and the FIFA Event Safeguarding Manager should a concern or an allegation of harassment or abuse (be it psychological, physical or sexual, or neglect) arise; and
- know the specific safeguarding measures for the World Cup 2023 and the avenues available for reporting concerns.

Article 27: Final list

27.1 The final list of the 21 players (three of whom shall be goalkeepers) selected to participate in the World Cup 2023 shall be submitted online by the deadline stipulated in the relevant circular letter. A signed copy of this list must also be sent to FIFA by the deadline stipulated in the relevant circular letter. All information requested online about the players should be duly completed.

27.2 The players on the final list must be chosen from the players on the provisional list. Only the 21 players on the final list will be permitted to take part in the World Cup 2023. The final list shall contain the players' shirt names and numbers in accordance with article 30 paragraphs 1 and 2.



- [27.3](#) A player listed on the final list may be replaced by a player from the provisional list only in the event of serious injury or illness up until 24 hours before the kick-off of their team's first match. The replacement shall be nominated by the participating team, who shall inform FIFA accordingly. Upon receipt and acceptance of a written detailed medical assessment in one of the official FIFA languages, the FIFA Medical Committee, represented by the FIFA Tournament Medical Lead, will issue a certificate stating that the injury or illness is sufficiently serious to prevent the player from taking part in the World Cup 2023. Injured players who are replaced must return their accreditation to FIFA. Accordingly, players who have returned their accreditation shall no longer be considered members of the Participating Member Association's final list. The replacement player must be assigned the shirt number of the injured player being replaced.
- [27.4](#) The final list of 21 players will be published by FIFA after the submission deadline.
- [27.5](#) Along with the above final list of players, a final list of up to 15 officials shall be submitted online by the stipulated deadline. In exceptional cases, teams may submit requests in writing to make changes to the final list of 15 officials, subject to FIFA's approval.
- [27.6](#) Before the start of the World Cup 2023, every player on the final list must prove their identity, nationality and age by producing their legally valid individual passport with photograph (stating day, month and year of birth). Any player who fails to submit these documents will not be allowed to take part in the World Cup 2023. The identity of team officials will be checked in connection with the accreditation process.

Article 28: Accreditation

- [28.1](#) FIFA shall issue each player and team official included in the final list with an official accreditation bearing a photograph. Each Participating Member Association will receive up to 36 accreditations (21 for the players on the final list and up to 15 for the officials on the final list). For the sake of clarity, FIFA will only cover the costs of up to a maximum of 29 delegates, as stipulated in the financial provisions.
- [28.2](#) FIFA reserves the right to revoke the accreditation of any official or player due to the misconduct of the individual concerned.
- [28.3](#) The Participating Member Associations shall ensure that all accreditation data required by FIFA is submitted by the deadline stipulated by FIFA. Further details will be outlined in a circular letter.
- [28.4](#) Players must wear their accreditation when entering the stadiums and training sites. Team officials must wear their accreditations at all times in the stadiums and training sites. Only players in possession of valid accreditation may play in the World Cup 2023.

07.

**KIT AND TEAM
EQUIPMENT**

Article 29: Kit and colours approval

- 29.1 The FIFA Equipment Regulations in force will apply to all matches of the World Cup 2023, unless specified otherwise in these regulations. To the extent that these Regulations are inconsistent with any aspect of the FIFA Equipment Regulations, the FIFA Equipment Regulations shall take precedence. The display of political, religious or personal messages or slogans of any nature 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 of any nature 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 official matches and training sessions, as well as during official press conferences and mixed-zone activities).
- 29.2 Each team shall inform FIFA of two different and contrasting colours (one predominantly dark and one predominantly light) for its first-choice and alternative team kits (two sets of shirts, shorts and socks). In addition, each team shall select three contrasting colours for the goalkeepers. These three goalkeeper kits must be different and contrasting from each other as well as from the first-choice and alternative team kits. This information shall be submitted online via the team colour form by the stipulated deadline. Only these colours, once reviewed and approved by FIFA as stated in article 29 paragraph 3 below, may be worn during matches.
- 29.3 The Participating Member Associations shall send to FIFA for approval a sample of all items of the full first-choice and alternative team kits (shirt, shorts, socks, all three goalkeeper's kits, gloves, caps, wristbands and headbands, etc.) intended for use during the World Cup 2023. In addition, FIFA may organise a kit-day session prior to the World Cup 2023; should it do so, the date shall be confirmed by circular letter. Representatives of all Participating Member Associations shall attend. All equipment (kits, gloves, bags, medical equipment, etc.) that could be on display within the stadium, the training sites and the hotels or during transfers to, from or within the host country must be approved by FIFA. FIFA shall issue a written team equipment inspection report approving or rejecting the items. Should any article of the team kit or any part thereof not be in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations and the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations, the Participating Member Association will be obliged to change it accordingly and resubmit the corrected items within the set timeline in the written team equipment inspection report. Any decisions are not subject to appeal.
- 29.4 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 re-checked and approved by FIFA during the Team Arrival Meeting for the World Cup 2023.

- 29.5** From the moment that their teams first arrive in the host country, and at the latest four days before the opening match until the end of the World Cup 2023, Participating Member Associations may not display (including on any clothing) any third-party commercial identification or branding in any final competition stadiums or training sites, or in connection with any official media activities, other than:
- on kit used at unofficial training sessions;
 - in the indoor press conference facility at their official training site (or other press conference location approved by FIFA), but only when used for unofficial events/activities; or
 - manufacturer's identifications on kit, in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations.

More details may be provided in the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations.

Article 30: Numbers and names

- 30.1** Only the numbers 1 to 21 may be allocated to the players, with number 1 being reserved exclusively for one of the goalkeepers. These numbers must be displayed on the front – at chest height – and on the back of the shirts according to the FIFA Equipment Regulations. The numbers shall correspond to the numbers indicated on the final list.
- 30.2** The player's last name or popular name (or abbreviation) shall be affixed above the number on the back of the shirt and shall be clearly legible in accordance with the FIFA Equipment Regulations. The name on the shirt must bear a strong resemblance to the player's popular name as indicated on the final list of players and in any other official FIFA documentation. In case of doubt, FIFA shall have the final decision regarding the name that appears on the shirt.
- 30.3** Each team shall supply a set of goalkeeper shirts without names or numbers for the World Cup 2023. 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.



Article 31: Match colours designation

31.1 Approximately two months (and no later than one month) before the start of the World Cup 2023 (ideally, as soon as reasonably practical after the draw and the team equipment inspection process has taken place for all participating teams), FIFA will inform the teams of the colours that they shall wear for each match of the group stage. As far as is possible, FIFA's preference is for each team to wear its first-choice colours as declared on the team colour form. If the two teams' colours and the match officials' colour might cause confusion, the following principles shall be applied by FIFA to allocate the match colours:

- a. Order of priority from 1 to 5:
 1. Team A playing kit
 2. Team B playing kit
 3. Team A goalkeeper kit
 4. Team B goalkeeper kit
 5. Match officials' (referees') kit

If the above order of priority does not produce a clear colour contrast of the kits (having considered the respective first-choice playing kit and alternative playing kit colour options), the allocation shall continue step by step in reverse order (team B colours first, followed by team A colours and/or reversal of team A and team B assignment, if necessary) until an acceptable colour contrast is confirmed.

- b. If necessary, one or both teams may have to wear a combination of their first-choice and alternative playing or goalkeeper kits, or each team may have to play in its alternative colours, irrespective of its team A or team B status. FIFA will endeavour to ensure that each team wears its first-choice playing kit at least once during the group stage. In principle, FIFA shall also consider the option of dark-kit, light-kit colour-contrast and amended team colour selection assignments in the interests of accommodating individuals with a colour vision deficiency whenever reasonably practicable.

31.2 FIFA shall confirm the playing colours to the Participating Member Associations before the start of each match. The colours shall be reviewed during the Match Coordination Meeting. The colours assignment decided by FIFA is final.

31.3 The first-choice and alternative team playing kits and all goalkeeper kits (including the goalkeeper shirts without names and numbers) shall be taken to every match.

Article 32: Other equipment

- 32.1 FIFA will supply a sufficient number of players' sleeve badges with the official competition logo of the World Cup 2023, which shall be affixed on the right-hand sleeve of each shirt. A different FIFA campaign logo may be affixed on the left-hand sleeve. FIFA will communicate to the participating teams the instructions for use of the players' sleeve badges.
- 32.2 FIFA will provide each participating team with a set of special equipment upon arrival in the host country (drinks bottles, drinks coolers, medical bags, captain's armbands, etc.). This equipment must be used at the stadium and at official training sessions to the exclusion of any similar items.
- 32.3 The footballs used in the World Cup 2023 shall be selected and exclusively supplied by FIFA. Time permitting, each team will receive 20 training balls from FIFA prior to the World Cup 2023 after the successful submission of the required team entry details. Twenty-five training balls will also be provided to the participating teams upon arrival in the host country. Only these balls provided by FIFA may be used for training and warm-up sessions at the official stadiums and training sites.
- 32.4 Only warm-up bibs provided by FIFA may be used during pre-match warm-up in the stadium and on the team benches, and for the warm-up of substitute players during matches.
- 32.5 Participating teams are allowed to use their own wearable tracking system, provided that the system has been tested and certified according to the Laws of the Game, registered with FIFA by the Participating Member Association for use in the World Cup 2023 and otherwise complies with the FIFA Equipment Regulations, the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations and any other applicable FIFA regulations.





**MATCH
ORGANISATION**

Article 33: Start list

- 33.1** The electronic start list system will be available and accessible eight hours prior to the kick-off of the respective match, with all 21 players' full names and shirt numbers together with the full names of the team officials eligible to be seated on the bench. Changes can be made at the team's discretion up to 90 minutes before kick-off. The traditional paper start list will also be available prior to each match.
- 33.2** The start list should be duly completed by selecting the 11 players who will start the match, indicating the captain, selecting the team officials to be seated on the bench (a maximum of eight) and submitted by the authorised team official and/or signed if applicable. Both teams must submit their completed start list at least 90 minutes before kick-off. If the start list is not submitted on time for any reason, the matter will be reported to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee. Both teams' start lists will be only published once both teams have submitted them, fully completed.
- 33.3** The numbers on the players' shirts must correspond to the numbers indicated on the start list. Each team is responsible for ensuring that the start list is completed properly and that only the 11 selected players start the match.
- 33.4** If any of the 11 players submitted on the start list are not able to begin the match due to injury or illness, they may be replaced by any of the eligible substitutes as long as the FIFA Match Director and the referee are officially informed thereof prior to kick-off. Within 24 hours, the team concerned shall also provide FIFA with a medical report issued by the team medical doctor (in one of the official FIFA languages).
- 33.5** Further to the above, any injured or ill player who is removed from the start list will no longer be eligible to take part in the match, and thus cannot be selected as a substitute player at any time during the match. Such a change to the start list will not reduce the number of official substitutions that may be made by a team during the match. Although no longer eligible to play as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the start list before kick-off may be seated on the team bench and would in that case also be eligible for doping control selection.
- 33.6** Only the players who were identified on the official start list submitted to the FIFA Match Director, 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 the match, the matter will be submitted to the FIFA Disciplinary Committee for a decision.



Article 34: Technical and warm-up areas

- 34.1 The technical area is the area which the coach, other team officials and substitutes are allowed to occupy during the match. It includes the dugout (if applicable), the team bench and a marked zone adjacent to the pitch.
- 34.2 No more than 18 people (ten substitute players and eight team officials – one of these team officials shall be the team medical doctor) shall be allowed to sit on the team bench. A suspended player or team official will not be allowed to sit on the team bench. Only the team officials indicated on the start list may sit on the team bench or be in the technical area during the match.
- 34.3 Additional technical overflow seats in the stand shall be allocated for accredited officials providing technical support to the team during the match (kit manager, assistant physiotherapist, etc.). Staff occupying such seats shall have access to the dressing rooms.
- 34.4 During the match, substitutes are allowed to leave the technical area to warm up. At the Match Coordination Meeting, the FIFA Match Director shall inform the teams exactly where they may warm up.
- 34.5 A maximum of six players per team shall warm up at the same time behind the advertising boards to the rear of the goal (with a maximum of two team officials). Only the goalkeeper may warm up with a ball. If there is not sufficient space behind the goals, both teams shall either warm up in the designated area behind the first assistant referee or next to their own team bench. If the warm-up takes place behind the first assistant referee, only a maximum of three players and one official per team may warm up at the same time and without any balls. If the warm-up takes place next to a team's own bench, only a maximum of five players and one official per team may warm up at the same time and without any balls.
- 34.6 Smoking, vaping and the use of any tobacco-related products are not allowed in the technical area, in the vicinity of the field of play or within the competition areas, such as the dressing rooms.
- 34.7 Small, hand-held electronic equipment (e.g. microphones, headphones, earpieces, mobile phones/smartphones, smartwatches, tablets, laptops, etc.) are permitted in the technical area only if used for coaching/tactics or player welfare in accordance with the Laws of the Game and the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations.
- 34.8 Additional special equipment items (e.g. antennae) for the use of wearable technology at World Cup 2023 matches may only be positioned in a dedicated area of a stadium defined by FIFA, but not in the technical area of such stadium.

Article 35: Match protocol

- [35.1](#) The countdown to kick-off provided to both teams in advance of the match shall be strictly complied with by both teams.
- [35.2](#) The FIFA flag and the flags of the host country and both competing countries shall be flown in the stadium at every match.
- [35.3](#) Unless FIFA states otherwise, the national anthems of the two teams will be played before each match. The Participating Member Associations shall confirm their national anthem to FIFA (maximum duration of 90 seconds) by the date stipulated in the relevant circular.
- [35.4](#) The display of political, religious or personal messages or slogans of any nature in any language or form by players and officials is prohibited. The similar display of commercial messages and slogans of any nature 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 official matches and training sessions, as well as during official press conferences and mixed-zone activities).

Article 36: Official training sessions, stadium familiarisation visits and pre-match warm ups

- [36.1](#) In order to preserve the quality of the pitch for the matches, no official training sessions will be allowed at the stadiums before any match. In principle, all Participating Member Associations' official training sessions will be conducted at the venue-specific training sites assigned by FIFA (exemptions to this rule could be granted if pitch conditions allow).
- [36.2](#) Teams that are due to play a match in a stadium in which they have not previously played will be entitled to a familiarisation session in that stadium on either the day before the match or two days before the match in the case of double-header matches. The players and team officials will be permitted to walk around the field of play and stadium to familiarise themselves with the set-up.
- [36.3](#) Official training session and stadium familiarisation times will be communicated by FIFA.
- [36.4](#) The teams will be entitled to warm up on the pitch before each match, weather and pitch conditions permitting. In principle, such warm-up will be 30 minutes long and will take place from 50 minutes prior to kick-off until 20 minutes prior to kick-off. If the pitch is not in good condition or if warm-up sessions would negatively affect the state of the pitch for the match, or if the pitch is to be used for ceremonies related to the World Cup 2023, FIFA may shorten or cancel the warm-up session and/or specify restricted areas of use.





REFEREEING

Article 37: Laws of the Game

- 37.1** All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game in force at the time of the World Cup 2023 and as laid down by The International Football Association Board (“The IFAB”). In the case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the translations of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.
- 37.2** Extreme weather conditions may warrant cooling breaks to be implemented during the course of a match in accordance with the protocols established by the FIFA Medical Committee and/or documented in the FIFA Football Emergency Medicine Manual. Such breaks will be considered on a match-by-match basis. Responsibility for implementing and controlling cooling breaks resides with the referee.
- 37.3** Goal-line technology, if implemented in the World Cup 2023, may be used for the purpose of verifying whether a goal has been scored to support the referee’s decision. The participating teams shall consent, without reservation, to the use of goal-line technology in the World Cup 2023, and unconditionally and irrevocably waive any and all rights and interests they may have in connection with or as a result of the use of goal-line technology in matches of the World Cup 2023.
- 37.4** Video assistant referee (VAR) systems and other forms of technology for reviewing match-changing incidents (e.g. semi-automated offside technology) may be used for reviewing match-changing decisions/incidents, as per the protocol established by The IFAB.
- 37.5** Each match shall last 90 minutes, comprising two periods of 45 minutes.

Article 38: Referees

- 38.1** The referees, assistant referees and fourth officials and VARs (if appointed) (referred to collectively as “match officials”) for the World Cup 2023 shall be appointed for each match by the FIFA Referees Committee. They shall be selected from the FIFA International Refereeing List in force and come from a member association that is not represented by a team playing in the match in question. The decisions of the FIFA Referees Committee are final and not subject to appeal.
- 38.2** If the referee is prevented from carrying out their duties, such referee shall be replaced by the fourth official. The same applies for either of the assistant referees if a reserve assistant referee is not appointed.



Where the VAR system is used, if the fourth official is not certified to referee with VAR, the referee shall be replaced by a video match official (VMO).

In case of exceptional circumstances, FIFA may decide to proceed with either a fourth official from the host association or to play the match without a fourth official.

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



FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Article 39: Costs borne by FIFA

FIFA shall bear the costs of:

39.1 International air travel (economy class) for up to a maximum of 29 delegates of each Participating Member Association travelling from and returning to the capital city of the respective Participating Member Association (or, in exceptional cases, from another city as decided by FIFA) to the capital city of the host country or, if deemed necessary by FIFA, to the international airport nearest to the venue where the team is scheduled to play its first match or any other venue designated by FIFA, with an airline specified by FIFA. Depending on the contracts negotiated between FIFA and the airline(s), FIFA will decide on the weight of excess baggage for which FIFA will bear the costs and will inform the Participating Member Associations accordingly.

39.2 Board and lodging for up to a maximum of 29 Delegation Members from each Participating Member Association. This includes:

- a. 10 twin rooms and 9 single rooms;
- b. 1 meeting room/dining room;
- c. 1 equipment room;
- d. 1 treatment room; and
- e. 3 meals per day, and an additional light meal for every matchday.

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

39.3 Laundry service for a set of match or training kits for 29 people per participating team per day, starting four days prior to each team's first match and ending one day after its last match.

Article 40: Costs borne by the Organising Association

The Organising Association shall bear the costs of:

40.1 Domestic travel (road, rail or air) within the host country for 29 people per participating team;

- a. One team bus, one passenger van and one equipment van will be provided for the exclusive use of each participating team during the period commencing four days prior to each team's first match and until one day after its last match.

- b. One additional luggage truck will be provided when travelling between the airport and the official team hotel, and between Host Cities.

40.2 Training facilities for the participating teams.

Article 41: Costs borne by the Participating Member Associations

- 41.1 Each Participating Member Association shall be responsible for and bear:
- a. the costs of adequate insurance cover for its Delegation Members;
 - b. the costs of board and lodging during the World Cup 2023 in excess of the amounts paid by FIFA or the Organising Association specified above;
 - c. all incidental hotel costs;
 - d. any costs associated with additional members in excess of the 29 Delegation Members covered;
 - e. costs for any additional equipment and/or items not covered by FIFA in the team meeting rooms and/or the team dressing rooms;
 - f. costs for any additional menu items other than those agreed between FIFA and the team hotels; and
 - g. any costs associated with specific requests for flight routes (for example, for training camps en route to the host country) and/or non-compliance with the deadlines provided by FIFA for providing the required information for flight bookings.

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

Article 42: Ticketing

42.1 Each Participating Member Association is entitled to receive a number of complimentary tickets for the World Cup 2023. The total number of complimentary tickets for each Participating Member Association will be communicated by FIFA prior to the opening match of the World Cup 2023.

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





MEDICAL

Article 43: Team medical doctor

Each Participating Member Association shall include at least one medical doctor (two are recommended) in its delegation. It is a mandatory requirement that the medical doctor or any other medical staff member of each Participating Member Association complete and successfully pass the “Concussion” and “Sudden Cardiac Arrest” modules of the FIFA Diploma in Football Medicine (www.fifamedicalnetwork.com).

Article 44: Sudden cardiac arrest and concussion

- 44.1 Each Participating Member Association shall ensure and confirm to FIFA that its players have undergone a pre-competition medical assessment (PCMA) in the 12 months prior to the start of the World Cup 2023. If specifically performed for the tournament, FIFA recommends that participating teams use the form developed by FIFA cardiology consultants for their PCMAS.
- 44.2 A non-contact collapse of a player should be treated as a sudden cardiac arrest until proven otherwise. The medical team are allowed to enter the pitch immediately and to commence resuscitation, without waiting for a signal from the referee. One member of the field-of-play medical team notifies the fourth official of the collapse and need for cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- 44.3 A player who experiences a suspected concussion during a match must undergo an examination by the team doctor in accordance with the FIFA Medical Concussion Protocol. The referee may temporarily suspend play for three minutes whenever an incident of suspected concussion occurs. The referee may only allow the player to continue playing with the authorisation of the team medical doctor, who shall have evaluated the player and excluded any suspicion of a concussive injury. The team medical doctor will have the final decision based on their clinical examination. Under no circumstances should a player with suspected concussion return to play.
- 44.4 FIFA recommends that medical teams follow a graduated return-to-play protocol set forth in the FIFA Medical Concussion Protocol for any player who has suffered concussion. The Protocol recognises that the time frame for return to play may vary, dependent on factors such as the player’s age, gender, their symptoms and medical history, and that doctors must use their clinical judgement in making decisions with respect to return to play. The player’s welfare must be their sole concern. FIFA requires that before any player who suffers a concussive episode can return to play, the team medical doctor certify that (a) such player has passed each of the steps set out in the FIFA Medical Concussion Protocol, (b) such player is fit for competition and (c) the team medical doctor has discussed the management of the case with the FIFA Medical Coordinator where indicated (subject to consent from the player).



Article 45: Doping control

- 45.1 Doping is strictly prohibited. The FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code and all other relevant FIFA regulations, circular letters and directives shall apply to the World Cup 2023.
- 45.2 Players may be subject to in-competition testing at the matches in which they compete and to out of competition testing at any time and in any place.



COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

Article 46: Commercial rights and media matters

46.1 FIFA is the original owner of all of the rights emanating from the World Cup 2023 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.

46.2 FIFA shall issue, at a later date, Media and Marketing Regulations for the World Cup 2023, specifying these commercial and intellectual property rights. All Participating Member Associations must comply with these Media and Marketing Regulations for the World Cup 2023 and must ensure that their members, officials, players, delegates and other affiliates also comply with these regulations.

46.3 Media matters and obligations for the competition will be outlined in the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations and those corresponding documents (circular letters, Team Handbook, Media Guidelines, etc.) that relate to TV and media activities. Participating teams must comply with the stipulations contained within these documents with respect to media matters.

The following obligations apply to participating teams:

- Each participating team must assist, and ensure that each of its Delegation Members assists, to the best possible extent, any official FIFA media activity during the competition period.
- Each participating team is required to include a team media officer in its delegation to act as a link between the team and the media officers of FIFA, the local organisers and the accredited media.
- Coaches and/or other team representatives are obliged to attend official media activities organised by FIFA as outlined in the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations, including but not limited to:
 - compulsory media activities upon arrival in the host country
 - compulsory media activities around official training sessions on matchday-1
 - compulsory media activities on matchdays

The obligations listed above are not exhaustive.

46.4 Journalists, photographers, television and radio commentators and accredited film and television crews are not permitted to enter the pitch at any time before, during or after the match unless authorised to do so by FIFA. This also applies to team TV channel personnel, videographers, social media managers and photographers. Only a limited number of photographers and the television personnel required to operate the broadcasting equipment, all of them issued with special accreditation as required, may be admitted to the area between the boundaries of the field of play and the spectators.

46.5 In the interests of equality, especially gender equality, FIFA appeals to the media to report on fans both in and outside the stadium in a respectful and balanced way. This includes not commenting or focusing on content relating to their physical appearance, which sexualises and objectifies them. Moreover, in the interests of promoting children's rights and best interests at the World Cup 2023, FIFA appeals to the media to use images of children (i.e. all boys and girls under the age of 18) safely and to seek informed consent, where feasible. The safe use of images of children includes, but is not limited to, not providing any information that could facilitate easily locating a child, not portraying children in an unethical, demeaning, tasteless or provocative manner, ensuring that they are properly dressed in a minimum of shirt and shorts, and not allowing any photography or filming of children in bathrooms, toilets or sleeping areas.

It is the responsibility of media organisations to be fully informed of the relevant national legislation in place that applies to the media in order to prevent the unethical coverage of stories involving children, to safeguard their right to privacy and to comply with the data protection rules governing the use of children's data.

46.6 The Media and Marketing Regulations for the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023™ specify these commercial and intellectual property rights as well as media matters and obligations relating to the World Cup 2023. All FIFA members must comply with these Media and Marketing Regulations for the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023™ at all times. To the extent that these Regulations are inconsistent with any aspect of the FIFA Media and Marketing Regulations for the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023™, the Media and Marketing Regulations shall take precedence.





AWARDS

Article 47: Trophy, awards and medals

- 47.1 A souvenir plaque will be presented to each Participating Member Association. Participation certificates will be presented to each member of each official team delegation.
- 47.2 Medals will be presented to each of the top three teams in the World Cup 2023, i.e. gold medals to the winners, silver medals to the runners-up and bronze medals to the team ranked third. The number of medals provided is equal to the number of people on the final delegation list submitted, i.e. up to a maximum of 36 medals.
- 47.3 FIFA will issue, at a later date, Trophy Regulations. The winning Participating Member Association shall ensure its full compliance with these Trophy Regulations.
- 47.4 At the conclusion of the World Cup 2023, other special awards will be presented (such as the Golden Boot, Golden Glove, Golden Ball, Fair Play Trophy, etc.) either at the awards ceremony or at a later date.





CLOSING PROVISIONS

Article 48: Special circumstances

FIFA is responsible for the operational management of the World Cup 2023 and is therefore entitled to issue any instructions necessitated by special circumstances that may arise in the host country. These instructions shall form an integral part of these Regulations.

Article 49: Matters not provided for

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

Article 50: Languages

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

Article 51: Copyright

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

Article 52: No waiver

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



Article 53: Enforcement

These Regulations were approved by the FIFA Council on 4 October 2023 and came into force immediately.

Zurich, October 2023

For FIFA



President

Gianni Infantino



Secretary General

Fatma Samoura

FIFA®