

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1905

Zurich, 4 November 2024

Amendments to the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to inform you of various amendments to the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (RSTP), which were approved by the FIFA Council at its meeting on 3 October 2024. The following paragraphs briefly set out the amendments, which concern:

- a) the FIFA Club World Cup 2025™;
- b) the codification of a temporary exception related to the Men's International Match Calendar 2025-2030; and
- c) a technical clarification regarding female players and coaches, and their return from leave.

a) Amendments related to the FIFA Club World Cup 2025™

In light of circumstances related to when the competition takes place, specific exceptions to some general principles of the RSTP were required, together with the implementation of the competition regulations of the FIFA Club World Cup 2025™.

The main exceptions introduced in the RSTP concern the registration of players, registration periods and the release of players to association teams.

1. Article 6 paragraph 3: This provision defines the circumstances under which players may be registered outside one of the two annual registration periods fixed by the relevant member association. The amendment makes it possible for the competition regulations of the FIFA Club World Cup 2025™ to provide further exceptions.

2. Article 5 paragraph 4: This provision establishes that a player can be registered with a maximum of three clubs and play in official matches for two clubs during a season, subject to certain exceptions. The amendment makes it possible for the competition regulations of the FIFA Club World Cup 2025™ to provide an exception to this principle.
3. Article 1 of Annexe 1: This provision establishes the principle that clubs are obliged to release their registered players to their representative teams. The amendment makes it possible for the competition regulations of the FIFA Club World Cup 2025™ to provide an exception to this principle without establishing precedent or applying to any other competition or circumstance in this regard.

b) Codification of a temporary exception related to the Men's International Match Calendar 2025-2030

Following a consultation process with the relevant stakeholders, an amendment was approved in the context of the current Men's International Match Calendar and, in particular, the temporary exception whereby, as of 2026, a new 16-day window with four matches will be introduced in late September/early October, replacing the two nine-day windows with two matches each that previously took place during those months.

While this window is formally envisaged for 2026, aligning the related provision of the RSTP well in advance will provide football stakeholders with a clear regulatory framework, ensuring appropriate legal certainty.

The amendments also entailed the removal of the outdated temporary exceptions introduced in March 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The amendments concern the following provisions: article 1 paragraphs 4, 5 and 7 of Annexe 1.

c) Technical clarification regarding female players and coaches

A technical clarification has been made with respect to the recent amendments to the provisions regarding female players and coaches, approved by the FIFA Council on 15 May 2024.

The amendment clarifies the fact that the rule enabling a female player to register outside a registration period to replace another female player covers all available types of leave (pregnancy, adoption, family leave), rather than only maternity leave.

The amendment concerns the following provision: article 6 paragraph 3 c).

Entry into force of the amendments

The amendments related to point a) entered into force immediately after approval, and the amendments related to points b) and c) will enter into force on 1 November 2024, as reflected in article 29. The revised edition of the RSTP (October 2024) is available [here](#).

We thank you for taking note of the above and for informing your affiliated clubs accordingly. Please do not hesitate to contact Jan Kleiner, Director of Football Regulatory, at legal@fifa.org if you have any questions in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Mattias Grafström
Secretary General

cc: -FIFA Council
 -Confederations
 -ECA
 -FIFPRO
 -World Leagues Association