

Regulations

Governing International Matches

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Fédération Internationale de Football Association

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English edition	1-24
Edition française	25 – 48
Edición española	49 – 72
Deutsche Ausgabe	73 – 96

Page	Article
	I. GENERAL PROVISIONS
4	1 Object
4	2 Scope
4	3 Definitions
6	4 General conditions
6	5 Name of International Matches or competitions
7	6 Duties of Members
	II. INTERNATIONAL MATCHES
8	7 Authorisation
8	8 Tier 1 International Matches
9	9 Tier 2 International Matches
9	10 Tier 3 International Matches
	III. PROCEDURE
10	11 Member application procedures
13	12 FIFA and Confederation authorisations
	IV. NOTIFICATION, REPORTING AND REGISTRATION OF INTERNATIONAL "A" MATCHES
14	13 Notification
14	14 Reporting
15	15 Registration and impact on FIFA ranking
	V. LEVIES
16	16 Levies
18	17 Statement of account
18	18 Minimum levy
	VI. SANCTIONS
19	19 Sanctions
	VII. FINAL PROVISIONS
19	20 Official languages
19	21 Adoption and enforcement
20	ANNEXES

Based on articles 73, 78, 79 and 80 of the FIFA Statutes, the Executive Committee has issued the following regulations

1 Object

These regulations set forth the authorisations, notifications and other requirements for organising matches and/or competitions between teams belonging to different Members, or between teams belonging to the same Member but playing in a Third Country, or involving players or teams that are not affiliated to Members or provisional members of the confederations as set forth in art. 79 par. 1 of the FIFA Statutes.

2 Scope

1. These regulations apply to all International Matches.
2. These regulations apply equally to association football (men's and women's football), futsal and beach soccer.

3 Definitions

For the purpose of these regulations, the terms set out below are defined as follows:

Club Team: a team representing a club that is affiliated directly or indirectly to a Member.

Confederation: a group of associations recognised by FIFA that belong to the same continent (or assimilable geographic region).

International Match: a match between two teams (either two Representative Teams, two Club Teams, two Scratch Teams, one Representative Team and one Club Team, or a Representative Team or Club Team and a Scratch Team) belonging to different Members. Any competition that may include an International Match shall be subject to these regulations. For the purpose of authorisation, any match or competition played between two teams belonging to the same Member but in a Third Country shall be recognised as an International Match.

International "A" Match: a match arranged by two Members and for which both Members field their first Representative Team ("A" Representative Team).

Member: an association that has been admitted into membership of FIFA by the FIFA Congress.

Representative Team: a team representing a Member (men or women).

Scratch Team: a team consisting of players not registered to the same club or Member, and/or composed of players who are no longer duly registered with one of the Members as they have finished their football career as a professional and/or amateur player.

Third Country: the territory of a Member upon which a match or competition is to be played and to which none of the teams participating in the match or competition is affiliated.

NB: Terms referring to natural persons are applicable to both genders. Any term in the singular applies to the plural and vice-versa.

4 General conditions

1. International Matches may only be authorised by FIFA, the Confederations or a Member in accordance with these regulations.
2. The Member on whose territory any International Match is played is responsible for all communications with regard to any other authorisations that are required from another Member, the Confederation(s) and FIFA.
3. Each team participating in an International Match shall verify before the match is played that the required authorisation(s) have been issued by the relevant bodies in accordance with these regulations.
4. A Member shall inform the relevant Members and, if required, the Confederation(s) and/or FIFA about any match that was arranged and played on its territory and for which authorisation was either not sought or not given.
5. A first Representative Team shall only play one match per day.

5 Name of International Matches or competitions

1. The name used for matches and competitions may not refer to the existing official names of any competitions of FIFA, the Confederations or Members.
2. The terms that may be used to define an International Match or competition are those that give an appropriate political and geographical description of the countries or territories of the Members whose teams are involved in the match or competition, and over whose countries or territories the Members shall have sole control and jurisdiction.
3. FIFA and the Confederations reserve the right to approve all competition names.

6 Duties of Members

- 1.** Members shall draw up their own regulations governing International Matches, which must comply fully with these regulations as well as those of the Confederations concerned.
- 2.** Members must ensure that their own members respect these regulations, those of the Confederations concerned as well as their own regulations.
- 3.** The Member on whose territory an International Match will be played shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the applicable regulations. It shall be responsible for obtaining authorisation from FIFA, the Confederations and the other Members concerned, if required.
- 4.** Members must reply to any written request with regard to their Representative Teams or their affiliated clubs in relation to an authorisation request from another Member, a Confederation or FIFA.
- 5.** The Member on whose territory an International "A" Match is played shall be responsible for collecting all applicable levies and forwarding the appropriate amounts to FIFA and/or the Confederations concerned in good time. It also shall be responsible for preparing the required statement of accounts for the International Match and submitting it to FIFA and the Confederations and Members concerned in good time.

7 Authorisation

1. All International Matches must be authorised by the Members to which the participating teams are affiliated and by the Member on whose territory the match is to occur. Matches involving a Scratch Team must be authorised by the Members to which the players are affiliated.
2. All matches involving a first Representative Team (“A” Representative Team) or Scratch Team that require the authorisation of two or more Confederations must also be authorised by FIFA.
3. Matches involving a Scratch Team may not be played without the approval of FIFA and the Confederations and Members concerned, and approval shall be granted only in exceptional circumstances.
4. FIFA’s authorisation or FIFA’s refusal of authorisation is given by the FIFA general secretariat, whose decision shall be final and binding.
5. An authorisation does not entail liability on the part of FIFA, the Confederations or any Member in the event that any legal claims subsequently arise.

8 Tier 1 International Matches

1. For the purposes of these regulations, a Tier 1 International Match shall mean any International Match in which one of the teams participating is the first Representative Team (“A” Representative Team), a Scratch Team, or a Club Team that participates in one of the two highest divisions of a Member according to the national competition hierarchy of the Member concerned.
2. A summary of the authorisations required for Tier 1 International Matches is set forth in Annexe A.

3. If a Member allows one of its leagues to select a team that bears the name of its country, the match shall be considered as a Representative Team match as described in par. 1 of this article.

9 Tier 2 International Matches

1. For the purposes of these regulations, a Tier 2 International Match shall mean any International Match in which a Representative Team, other than a Member's first Representative Team ("A" Representative Team) participates and which is not a Tier 1 International Match.

2. A summary of the authorisations required for Tier 2 International Matches is set forth in Annexe B.

10 Tier 3 International Matches

1. For the purposes of these regulations, Tier 3 International Matches shall mean all International Matches that are not Tier 1 or Tier 2 International Matches.

2. Any authorisation procedure for Tier 3 International Matches shall be stipulated in the regulations of the Confederation concerned.

11

Member application procedures

1. Each Member must ensure that the following minimum requirements of the application procedure for participating in International Matches or competitions either at home or abroad are respected by its members:

- a)** The application form;
- b)** The date by which the application must be submitted. The application date must be sufficiently early to allow time for authorisation requests to be submitted to FIFA, the Confederations and Members concerned;
- c)** The application fee, if any; and
- d)** Potential sanctions for any infringements of these regulations and/or failure to comply with the Member's application requirements.

2. The application form for hosting an International Match or competition shall require the following as a minimum:

- a)** The name of the party responsible for promoting and staging the International Match or competition, such as a Member, a league or club affiliated to a Member or a FIFA match agent;
- b)** The name of the International Match or competition (if any) in compliance with art. 5;
- c)** A list of the teams participating in the International Match or competition;
- d)** The dates of the International Match or competition;
- e)** The name and country of the appointed referees, in accordance with FIFA's International Lists of Referees;

- f)** The International Match or competition regulations, including:
 - i)** Competition format and schedule, if more than one match is involved
 - ii)** Refereeing provisions
 - iii)** Disciplinary procedures
 - iv)** Confirmation that the Laws of the Game will be strictly observed
 - v)** Player eligibility rules, and
 - vi)** Anti-doping measures, if applicable;

- g)** The stadiums to be used, including evidence that the stadiums have been reserved and that they comply with the FIFA Football Stadiums: Technical Recommendations and Requirements publication, to the extent applicable;

- h)** Player safety measures, including emergency medical plans;

- i)** A performance bond or other financial security measures to ensure the performance of obligations, including payment of refereeing costs;

- j)** If the match is open to the public, the global safety and security plan, including ticketing and compliance with the FIFA Safety Regulations (if applicable);

- k)** The colours of the teams and special attention to the ban on advertising on Representative Team's shirts. The FIFA Equipment Regulations may serve as guidelines for the determination of the team match colours.

- l)** Confirmation that the International Match or competition is to be internationally televised, if applicable;

- m)** A certificate of compliance with these regulations; and

- n)** Any domestic law requirements.

3. The application form for participating in an International Match or competition on the territory of another Member shall require the following as a minimum:

a) The name of the Member on whose territory the International Match or competition is to be played;

b) The name of the party responsible for promoting and staging the International Match or competition;

c) The list of the teams participating in the International Match or competition;

d) The date(s) of the International Match or competition;

e) The basic rules of the competition, including:

i) Competition format if more than one match is involved

ii) Disciplinary procedures

iii) Player eligibility rules, and,

iv) Anti-doping measures, if applicable;

f) The name and contact information of the head of the delegation, a natural person who shall be the person responsible for the official travel delegation of each team of the Member participating in the International Match or competition;

g) Any required travel documents;

h) If it is a youth event, any required parental approvals; and,

i) Any domestic law requirements.

4. The Member on whose territory the International Match or competition is to be played may require that the party responsible for promoting and staging the International Match or competition enters into a written agreement.

12 FIFA and Confederation authorisations

- 1.** A request for authorisation from FIFA shall be submitted by the Member on whose territory the International Match or competition is planned at least two months before the earliest of the proposed dates for such match or competition. The authorisation request shall be on the official FIFA form and shall include all required supporting documents. FIFA will only consider fully completed applications. FIFA may reject or charge additional fees for any application that is either not filed in good time and/or incomplete. FIFA may also replace the proposed appointed referees at its sole discretion.
- 2.** A request for authorisation from a Confederation shall be submitted by the Member on whose territory the International Match or competition is planned at least two months before the earliest of the proposed dates of such match or competition. The authorisation request shall be on the official Confederation form and include all required supporting documents. A Confederation will only consider fully completed applications and may reject or charge additional fees for any application that is either not filed in good time and/or incomplete. A Confederation may also replace the proposed appointed referees at its sole discretion.
- 3.** A request for authorisation from a Confederation and FIFA shall be submitted first to the Confederation by the Member on whose territory the International Match or competition is planned at least two months before the earliest of the proposed dates of such match. After the Confederation has approved the request, it shall submit the documents to FIFA for approval within two weeks of receipt of the request.

13 Notification

1. The FIFA general secretariat shall be notified of every International "A" Match, including friendly matches and those played in competitions or in games including football, by the Members organising them within 14 days of their being arranged. In any case, such notification shall reach FIFA at least 48 hours before the planned date of the match.
2. The Members concerned and the teams participating in matches for which no notification has been provided may be subject to further disciplinary measures pursuant to these regulations.

14 Reporting

The Member on whose territory the match is played shall, within 15 days of each International "A" Match, notify the FIFA general secretariat of the result of the match, the surnames and first names of the referee and assistant referees who officiated, and the surnames, first names and status of the players and substitutes of each team, using the official form for this purpose. This form shall be filled in completely and signed.

15

Registration and impact on FIFA ranking

- 1.** The results of every International "A" Match shall be recorded in an official list regularly updated by FIFA. The score of such match will be used by FIFA for the purposes of updating the FIFA ranking.
- 2.** Such a match shall, however, not be registered on the official list of international matches involving two Members if either Member so desires and informs FIFA and the other Member to this effect at least 48 hours before the match takes place. The levy due to FIFA for International "A" Matches in compliance with art. 73 par. 1 of the FIFA Statutes and these regulations shall still be payable in such a case.

16 Levies

1. FIFA levies

- a)** Members shall pay FIFA a levy for every International "A" Match, including matches that are played as part of the Olympic Football Tournaments.
- b)** The levy shall be paid by the Member in whose country the match is being played.
- c)** The levy to be paid to FIFA for each such match shall equal 2% of the gross receipts (ticket sales, advertising rights, rights for television and radio broadcasts, and film and video rights, etc.) derived from each such match.
- d)** The only deductions that may be made from the gross receipts are state and local taxes actually paid (but not bank charges or differences in exchange rates) and any charges for the hire of the stadium. The total amount deducted shall not exceed 30% of the entire gross receipts.
- e)** Members affiliated to Confederations are governed by the provisions of subparagraph (c) of this article, subject to the following conditions:
 - i)** the levy due to FIFA in respect of matches played on the territory of a Confederation between Members belonging to that Confederation is only 1%, the remaining 1% being payable directly to the Confederation involved;
 - ii)** the levy due in respect of matches played between Members affiliated to different Confederations, on the territory of one of these Confederations, is payable to FIFA, which will retrocede 0.5% to each of the Confederations involved;
 - iii)** the levy due in respect of matches played between Members affiliated to different Confederations, on the territory of a third Confederation, is only 1%, the remaining 1% being payable directly to the Confederation in which the match was played.

2. Confederation levies

a) The Confederations may demand their own levy independently of FIFA, in accordance with the Confederations' statutes and regulations.

b) The Confederations shall publish the schedule of levies applicable to International Matches and the procedures and time periods for paying those levies.

3. Member levies

a) Members may demand their own levy independently of FIFA and the Confederations, in accordance with the Members' statutes and regulations.

b) The Members shall publish the schedule of levies applicable to International Matches and the procedures and time periods for paying those levies.

4. All levies are obligations on the participating teams.

17 Statement of account

1. For each match subject to a levy, a detailed statement of account shall be drawn up by the Member in whose territory the match was played.
2. This statement shall contain all the requisite figures reflecting the entire income and any taxes or charges deducted therefrom.
3. The statement of account and the amount due shall be sent to FIFA and all Members and Confederations concerned within 60 days of the date of the match.
4. Failure to conform with these requirements shall be punished in compliance with the sanctions provided for in these regulations, the FIFA Disciplinary Code and the FIFA Statutes.

18 Minimum levy

1. Irrespective of the financial outcome of the match, the contribution to be paid to FIFA shall be at least USD 400.
2. Confederations and Members may set their own minimum contribution independently of FIFA.

19 Sanctions

1. Any violation of these regulations shall be sanctioned in accordance with the FIFA Disciplinary Code.
2. If an International Match is played on the territory of a Member without prior authorisation, that Member shall be sanctioned in accordance with the disciplinary regulations of the Confederation concerned and, if necessary, of FIFA. In addition, the teams that participate in such a match and the Members to which those teams are affiliated shall be sanctioned in accordance with the disciplinary regulations of the Confederation concerned and, if necessary, of FIFA.

20 Official languages

1. These regulations have been issued in the four official languages of FIFA (English, French, Spanish and German).
2. In the event of any discrepancy between the four texts, the English version is authoritative.

21 Adoption and enforcement

These regulations were approved by the FIFA Executive Committee on 3 March 2011 and come into force on 1 August 2011.

A

Tier 1 International Matches

Type of team involved		
First Representative Team involved	- "A" Representative Team	Single Confederation case
	- "A" Representative Team (futsal) - "A" Representative Team (beach soccer)	Multiple Confederation case
Clubs participating in one of the two highest divisions of a Member	Single Confederation case (match/competition)	If the planned match date coincides with dates either in the international match calendar or in the match calendar of the Confederation concerned (this includes the specified release period)
		Any other date
	Multiple Confederation case (match/competition)	Any date
Scratch Team	Single Confederation case (match/competition)	Any date
	Multiple Confederation case (match/competition)	Any date

Key

Conf. regs: Authorisation by/notification to the Confederation, to be determined by the Confederation's regulations.

Single Confederation case: All participating teams belong to the same Confederation and the match/competition is taking place on the Confederation's territory.

Multiple Confederation case: Either the participating teams belong to different Confederations or the match/competition is taking place on another Confederation's territory than the one to which the teams belong. If this is the case, the Confederation on whose territory the match/competition is taking place shall have the final decision, but the other Confederation(s) shall have a "veto right" prior to this final decision.

Authorisation by FIFA	Notification sent to FIFA	Authorisation by Confederation on whose territory the match/ competition is to take place	Authorisation by all Confederations	Authorisation by the associations to which the teams belong	Authorisation by the association on whose territory the match/ competition is to take place
	X	X		X	X
X		X	X	X	X
	X	X		X	X
	X	Conf. regs		X	X
	X	X	X	X	X
X		X		X	X
X		X	X	X	X

B Tier 2 International Matches

Type of team involved		
Other Representative Teams	- U-20 Representative Team - U-17 Representative Team - Any other Representative Team	Single Confederation case
		Multiple Confederation case
Professional Club Team (not top-level club)	Single Confederation case (match/competition)	If the planned match date coincides with dates either in the international match calendar or in the match calendar of the Confederation concerned (this includes the specified release period)
		Any other date
	Multiple Confederation case (match/competition)	Any date

Key

- Conf. regs: Authorisation by/notification to the Confederation, to be determined by the Confederation’s regulations.
- Single Confederation case: All participating teams belong to the same Confederation and the match/competition is taking place on the Confederation’s territory.
- Multiple Confederation case: Either the participating teams belong to different Confederations or the match/competition is taking place on another Confederation’s territory than the one to which the teams belong. If this is the case, the Confederation on whose territory the match/competition is taking place shall have the final decision, but the other Confederation(s) shall have a “veto right” prior to this final decision.

Authorisation by FIFA in consultation with the Confederation(s) concerned	Notification sent to FIFA	Authorisation by the Confederation on whose territory the match/ competition is to take place	Authorisation by all Confederations	Authorisation by the association to which the teams belong	Authorisation by the association on whose territory the match/ competition is to take place
	X	Conf. regs	Conf. regs	X	X
	X	X	X	X	X
	X	X		X	X
	X	Conf. regs		X	X
	X	X	X	X	X

Application form for participating in an international match or competition

Preamble:

In accordance with arts 7 and 12 of the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches, a member who intends to participate in an international match or competition must obtain prior authorisation from FIFA.

The applicant intends to participate in an international match or competition. Consequently, the applicant,

.....,

(Name of the applicant)

submits the following

authorisation request

in order to participate in the following international match or competition:

Description:

(Description of the international match or competition)

arranged by

Name:

(Name of the party responsible for promoting and staging the international match or competition, such as a member, league or club affiliated to a member or a FIFA agent)

on the territory of

Football association:

(Name of the FIFA member on whose territory an international match is to be played)

Teams: 1.
2.

(Name of the teams participating in the international match. If the present request relates to a competition, please see par. 1.1 of Appendix 1)

Date:

(Date on which the international match is to be played. If the present request relates to a competition, please see par. 1.1 of Appendix 1)

Head of delegation:

.....
.....
.....
.....
(Name and contact information of the head of the delegation. The head of the delegation shall be a natural person who is responsible for the official travel delegation of each team of the member participating in the international match or competition)

The signatory confirms that the necessary documentation pursuant to Appendix 1 is duly attached. In this regard and in accordance with art. 12 par. 1 of the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches, the signatory acknowledges that FIFA will only consider fully completed applications. Otherwise, FIFA may reject or charge additional fees for any application that is not filed in good time and/or is incomplete.

.....
(Name of the applicant)

.....
(Place and date)

.....
(Name and function of the signatory)

Appendix 1

In all cases, the following documents must be attached:

1. The basic rules of competition, including
 - 1.1 Competition format, if more than one match is involved
 - 1.2 Disciplinary procedures
 - 1.3 Player eligibility rulesand, if applicable
 - 1.4 Anti-doping measures.
2. Any required travel documents.
3. In accordance with art. 7 of the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches, a confirmation by the FIFA member that the participation has been approved.

To the extent applicable, the following documents must be attached:

4. If it is a youth event, any required parental approvals.
5. Any domestic law requirements.

Application form for hosting an international match or competition

Preamble:

In accordance with art. 6 par. 3 of the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches, a member on whose territory an international match or competition is to be played, must, subject to the conditions of arts 7 and 12 of said regulations, obtain prior authorisation from FIFA.

The applicant is a FIFA member and intends to host an international match or competition on its territory. Consequently, the applicant,

.....,

(Name of the FIFA member, hereinafter "the applicant")

submits the following

authorisation request

in order to hold the following international match or competition:

Description:

(Description of the international match or competition)

arranged by:

Name:

(Name of the party responsible for promoting and staging the international match or competition, such as a member, league or club affiliated to a member or a FIFA agent)

Teams: 1.

2.

(Name of the teams participating in the international match. If the present request relates to a competition, please see par. 6 in Appendix 1)

Date:

(Date on which the international match is to take place. If the present request relates to a competition, please see par. 6 in Appendix 1)

- Referees**
- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

(Full name and nationality of the referees and assistant referees. In any case, the nomination of these referees must be effected in accordance with FIFA's International List of Referees)

Stadium 1.

(Name of the stadium to be used for the international match. If the present request relates to a competition, please see par. 6 in Appendix 1)

The signatory confirms that the necessary documentation pursuant to Appendix 1 is attached. In this regard and in accordance with art. 12 par. 1 of the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches, the signatory acknowledges that FIFA will only consider fully completed applications. Otherwise, FIFA may reject or charge additional fees for any application that is not filed in good time and/or is incomplete.

Furthermore, the signatory hereby explicitly affirms its compliance with the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches.

.....

(Name of the applicant)

.....

(Place and date)

.....

(Name and function of the signatory)

Appendix 1

In all cases, the following documents must be attached:

1. The international match or competition regulations issued by the applicant.
These regulations must contain provisions regarding:
 - 1.1 Competition format and playing schedule, if more than one match is involved
 - 1.2 Refereeing provisions
 - 1.3 Disciplinary procedures
 - 1.4 Confirmation that the Laws of the Game will be strictly observed
 - 1.5 Player eligibility rulesand, if applicable
 - 1.6 Anti-Doping measures.
2. Evidence that the stadiums to be used have been reserved and, to the extent applicable, that they comply with the *FIFA Football Stadiums: Technical Recommendations and Requirements* book.
3. Documentation regarding player safety measures, including emergency medical plans.
4. A performance bond or other financial security measures to ensure the performance of obligations, including payment of refereeing costs.
5. Information regarding the colours of the teams, acknowledging the ban on advertising on representative team's shirts. The FIFA Equipment Regulations may serve as guidelines for the determination of the team match colours.

To the extent applicable, the following documents must be attached:

6. If the present application is related to a competition: extensive documentation, including information regarding the dates of the matches and the names of the teams, referees and stadiums.
7. If the match is open to the public, a global safety and security plan including (if applicable) ticketing and compliance with the FIFA Safety Regulations.
8. Confirmation that the international match or competition is to be internationally televised, if applicable.
9. Any domestic law requirements.

Report form

Preamble:

In accordance with art. 14 of the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches, a FIFA member on whose territory an international "A" match has been played shall provide the FIFA general secretariat with the relevant report within 15 days.

Accordingly, the following

Report

is brought to the attention of the FIFA general secretariat.

Description:

.....

(Description of the international "A" match)

Date:

.....

(Date on which the international "A" match took place)

arranged by

Name:

.....

(Name of the party responsible for promoting and staging the international "A" match)

between the following

Teams

1.

2.

(Name of the teams participating in the international "A" match)

Final score:

.....

(Final score of the international "A" match)

Referee
.....
.....
(Name and nationality of the referee)

Assistant referees

1.
2.
3.
4.

(Name and nationality of the assistant referees)

The signatory confirms the accuracy of the aforementioned statements. In addition, and in order to fulfil the conditions of art. 14 of the FIFA Regulations Governing International Matches, the signatory confirms that the referee’s report on the respective international “A” match, signed by the referee, has been attached in Appendix 1.

.....
(Name of the FIFA member)

.....
(Place and date)

.....
(Name and function of the signatory)

Appendix 1

(Referee's report)