



# Regulations

Governing International Matches

**FIFA**<sup>®</sup>  
*For the Game. For the World.*



# Regulations

Governing International Matches

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

**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.

## **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.

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.

- 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.

## 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.



## 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.

**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.**

## 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.

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

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