



**NATIONAL REGISTRATION, STATUS AND
TRANSFER REGULATIONS**

Football Australia Limited
(ACN 106 478 068)

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1 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

1.1 Definitions

In these Regulations:

Accredited means a natural person who has completed a course of relevant training that is recognised by FA.

Adopted Member Federation has the meaning prescribed in article 3.6(a).

Adoption Leave means a minimum period of eight (8) weeks' paid absence granted to a female Player in the case of the adoption of a child who is younger than two (2) years of age. The period of paid absence is reduced to four (4) weeks for a child between two (2) and four (4) years of age, and two (2) weeks for a child who is older than the age of four (4). The Adoption Leave must be taken within six (6) months of the date of the formal adoption and cannot be accumulated with Family Leave for the same child.

AFC or Asian Football Confederation means the governing body of Asian football of which FA is a member association.

AFC Statutes mean the statutes and accompanying standing orders and regulations promulgated by the Asian Football Confederation from time to time.

A-Leagues means the A-League Men, A-League Women and A-League Youth competitions.

A-League Men means the premier national men's professional club competition staged by APL, under licence from FA, known as the A-League Men competition (or as otherwise notified by APL from time to time), including the pre-season, regular season and finals series.

A-League Women means the premier national women's professional club competition staged by APL, under licence from FA, known as the A-League Women competition (or as otherwise notified by APL from time to time), including the pre-season, regular season and finals series.

A-League Youth means the premier men's youth national club competition, including the pre-season, regular season and finals series.

Amateur means any Player that is not a Professional, as defined in article 5.1(c).

Amateur Competition means a Competition in which only Amateurs participate.

Australia Cup means the national club competition staged by, or under the control of, FA between A-League Men, Australian Championship, National Premier Leagues and grassroots clubs, known as the Australia Cup (or as otherwise notified by FA), including the preliminary rounds, the final rounds playoffs and the final rounds.

Australian Championship means the second tier national men's club competition, staged by FA, known as the Australian Championship (or as otherwise notified by FA from time to time), including the pre-season, regular season and finals series.

Australian Championship Club means any Club that participates in the Australian Championship.

Australian Professional Leagues or **APL** means the Australian Professional Leagues Company Pty Ltd (ACN 646 799 199) as trustee for the Australian Professional Leagues Trust ABN 95 869 867 692 being the Competition Administrator for the A-Leagues, under licence from Football Australia.

Auckland FC means the football club known as “Auckland FC” operated by Black Knight Football Club LP (NZBN 9429051697822) and as licensed to participate in the A-Leagues by FA from time to time.

Bridge Transfer means any two (2) consecutive transfers between a Club and/or an International Club of the same Player that are connected to each other and comprising a registration of that Player with the middle (second) Club or International Club (as applicable) to circumvent the application of the relevant regulations or laws and/or to defraud another person or entity.

Client means Football Australia, Club, Player, or Accredited coach that may engage a Football Agent to provide Football Agent Services

Club means any club registered with FA in accordance with these Regulations from time to time. A reference to Club includes a club admitted by:

- (a) a Competition Administrator to field a team in a Competition; or
- (b) FA to field a team in a National League, the National Championships, or the Australia Cup and includes Wellington Phoenix FC and Auckland FC (but does not include an International Club).

Club Official means any person involved with the administration, management or organisation of a Club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, consultants, officers and directors and representatives.

Code of Conduct and Ethics means the national football code of conduct and ethics as promulgated by FA from time to time (a current version of which can be obtained on the FA Website or on request).

Competition means any competition, tournament or league registered with FA in accordance with these Regulations, including the pre-season, regular season, finals series and any post season tournament or knockout cup competition.

Competition Administrator means the entity responsible for the conduct and staging of a Competition, and for the avoidance of doubt, includes FA, a Member Federation and APL.

Competition Rules mean the rules and regulations governing the administration and conduct of a Competition as described in article 3.3.

Constitution means the FA constitution, as amended from time to time (a current version of which can be obtained on the FA Website or on request).

Disciplinary and Ethics Committee means the committee so named and established in accordance with the Judicial Bodies By-Law and convened by FA from time to time.

Disciplinary Regulations means the national football disciplinary regulations as promulgated by FA from time to time (a current version of which can be obtained on the FA Website or on request).

District Association means a district or regional association or zone that is a member of a Member Federation from time to time.

Domestic Club-Trained Player means a Player who is registered with:

- (a) their Parent Club; or
- (b) in limited circumstances only, a Club with a formal partnership with the Parent Club, which must always be approved by FA, with such approval to be subject to FA's sole and absolute discretion; and

for the period:

- (c) between the sooner of the:
 - (i) Player's fifteenth (15th) birthday; or
 - (ii) the start of the season during which the Player turns fifteen (15); and
 - (iii) Player's twenty-first (21st) birthday; or
 - (iv) start of the season during which the Player turns twenty-one (21); and
- (d) of either:
 - (i) three (3) entire seasons; or
 - (ii) thirty-six (36) months,

regardless of whether the period is continuous or not.

Domestic Dimension means:

- (a) the provision of Football Agent Services related to a Specified Transaction in connection with a National Transfer; or
- (b) the provision of Football Agent Services related to more than one (1) Specified Transaction, where all Specified Transactions are National Transfers.

Domestic Loan means the temporary transfer of a Professional's registration from that Professional's Parent Club to the Professional's Loan Club and which must be:

- (c) effected in accordance with these Regulations; and
- (d) between two (2) Clubs (not including Wellington Phoenix or Auckland FC).

Domestic Match Calendar means the national football calendar that is developed and promulgated by FA from time to time.

Domestic Training Compensation has the meaning prescribed in article 14.2.

DTC or **Domestic Transfer Certificate** means the certificate produced by the National DTMS to confirm the valid completion of a National Transfer.

Emerging Championships means the Emerging Matildas Championships and the Emerging Socceroos Championships.

Emerging Matildas Championships means the U15 & U16 female youth competition staged in Australia by, or under the control of FA, known as the Emerging Matildas Championships.

Emerging Socceroos Championships means the U15 & U16 male youth competition staged in Australia by, or under the control of FA known as the Emerging Socceroos Championships.

Family Leave means a minimum period of eight (8) weeks' paid absence granted to a female Player other than the biological mother following the birth of a child. The Family Leave must be taken within six (6) months of the date of birth of the child and cannot be accumulated with Adoption Leave for the same child.

FA Statutes means:

- (a) the Constitution, including any by-laws, as amended from time to time in accordance with its terms; and
- (b) any other statutes, regulations or policies promulgated by FA, as amended on notification from FA from time to time.

FA Website means FA's official website at www.footballaustralia.com.au.

FIFA or **Fédération Internationale de Football Association** means the international governing body of football of which FA is a member association.

FIFA Connect System means the system designed by FIFA that provides the FIFA ID and provides the technical interface between the National Online Registration System, FIFA TMS and the National DTMS.

FIFA Football Agent Regulations means the FIFA Football Agent Regulations promulgated by FIFA from time to time.

FIFA ID means the worldwide unique identifier allocated by the FIFA Connect System to each Club, FIFA member association (such as FA) and player.

FIFA Statutes mean the statutes and accompanying standing orders and regulations promulgated by FIFA from time to time, including the Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players, Code of Ethics, Disciplinary Code and FIFA Football Agent Regulations.

FIFA TMS means FIFA's Transfer Matching System, a web-based data information system with the primary objective of simplifying the process of international player transfers.

Football Agent means a natural person licensed by FIFA to perform Football Agent Services.

Football Australia or **FA** means Football Australia Limited.

Football Agent Services means football-related services performed for or on behalf of a Client, including any negotiation, communication relating or preparatory to the same, or other related activity, with the purpose, objective and/or intention of concluding a Transaction.

Grievance means any dispute or grievance that arises in relation to these Regulations, including a dispute about the breach, termination, enforcement or subject matter of these Regulations, including the Professional Player Contract, Code of Conduct and Ethics and Disciplinary Regulations.

Grievance Procedure has the meaning prescribed in the FA Statutes including the Grievance Procedure By-Law (a current version of which can be obtained on the FA Website or on request).

Guest Player means a player who participates in a Competition on a short-term basis in accordance with the requirements specified in article 8.3 of these Regulations.

Institute means any national, state or territory institute or academy of sport that has a football program including any national training centre implemented by either FA or a Member Federation.

International Club means a football club domiciled outside the Commonwealth of Australia but does not include Wellington Phoenix or Auckland FC.

International Club-Trained Player means a Player who is registered with their Parent Club:

- (a) for the period between the sooner of the:
 - (i) Player's fifteenth (15th) birthday; or
 - (ii) the start of the season during which the Player turns fifteen (15); and
 - (iii) Player's twenty-first (21st) birthday; or
 - (iv) start of the season during which the Player turns twenty-one (21); and
- (b) for either a period of:
 - (i) three (3) entire seasons; or
 - (ii) thirty-six (36) months,

regardless of whether the period of registration with the Player's Parent Club is continuous or not.

International Dimension means:

- (a) the provision of Football Agent Services related to a Specified Transaction in connection with an International Transfer; or
- (b) the provision of Football Agent Services related to more than one (1) Specified Transaction, where at least one (1) is connected with an International Transfer.

International Loan means the temporary transfer of a Professional's registration from that Professional's Parent Club to that Professional's Loan Club and which must be:

- (a) effected in accordance with these Regulations; and
- (b) between:
 - (i) a Club and an International Club; or
 - (ii) Wellington Phoenix and a Club (other than Auckland FC); or

- (iii) Auckland FC and a Club (other than Wellington Phoenix).

Intra-League Loan means the Loan of a Professional, being the temporary transfer of a Professional's registration from the Parent Club to the Loan Club, and which must be:

- (a) effected in accordance with these Regulations; and
- (b) between two (2) Clubs licensed for and currently participating in the A-League Men Competition,

and for the avoidance of doubt, in the case of Wellington Phoenix or Auckland FC, is also an International Loan.

International Transfer means:

- (a) in relation to the transfer of a Player's registration, where at least one (1) of the parties is an international club domiciled outside of Australia; or
- (b) in relation to the movement of an Accredited coach:
 - (i) where that Accredited coach's new club is affiliated to a different National Association than that of the Accredited coach's previous employer; or
 - (ii) where that Accredited coach is employed by a new National Association, a different National Association than that of the Accredited coach's previous employer.

ITC or **International Transfer Certificate** means an International Transfer Certificate or International Futsal Transfer Certificate (as the case may be) as described in the FIFA Statutes.

Just Cause means being legally entitled to terminate a Professional Player Contract, including in accordance with the termination provisions of that Professional Player Contract and article 10.2 of these Regulations.

Loan means a Domestic Loan or an International Loan.

Loan Club means the Club to which the registration of a Professional subject to a Loan is, will be, or has been transferred from a Parent Club for the term of the Loan.

Loan Fee means any payment, fee or benefit agreed between the Parent Club and Loan Club in a loan agreement in respect of Loan.

Local Member Federation has the meaning prescribed in article 3.6(a).

Match means any match staged, participated in, sanctioned by or played under the auspices of FA, a Member Federation or a Competition Administrator.

Maternity Leave means a minimum period of 14 weeks' paid absence granted to a female Player due to their pregnancy, of which a minimum of eight (8) weeks must occur after the birth of the child.

Match Official means a referee, assistant referee, video assistant referee, fourth official, match commissioner, referee inspector, selector, any person in charge of safety or any other

person appointed by FA, a Member Federation or a Competition Administrator to assume responsibility in connection with a Match.

Member Federation means a State, Territory or regional federation or association that is a member of FA from time to time.

Members mean FA, Member Federations, District Associations, Competition Administrators, Clubs, Players, Officials, and Football Agents.

MiniRoos means the national modified football program developed by FA for junior Players.

MiniRoos Kick-Off means the introductory MiniRoos program.

Minor means a person who is under the age of 18 years.

National Association means a national football association that is a recognised member of FIFA.

National Championships means any male or female national championships staged or sanctioned by FA from time to time, including the Emerging Championships or Institute challenges.

National DTMS means FA's national online system for the administration and monitoring of all National Transfers, which captures the mandatory information prescribed in the RSTPs and is integrated with the FIFA Connect System.

National League means any male or female national club Competitions sanctioned by, conducted by, or conducted under the auspices of, FA from time to time, including the A-Leagues and the Australian Championship.

National League Club means any Club that participates in the National Leagues.

National Online Registration System means FA's national registration database which is integrated with the FIFA Connect System and assigns FIFA IDs in accordance with the requirements of the RSTPs.

National Premier Leagues means those Competitions designated by FA as National Premier Leagues, including state league competitions administered by a Member Federation.

National Premier Leagues Club means any Club that participates in the National Premier Leagues.

National Premier Leagues Player Roster Principles means the National Premier Leagues Player Roster Principles as promulgated by FA from time to time (a current version of which can be obtained on the FA Website or on request).

National Team means any national team squad selected or nominated by FA, including the men's and women's senior, underage, Olympics, futsal and beach teams or any other national representative team determined by FA from time to time.

National Transfer means the record of the change of a Player's registration from one Club to another Club.

OFC or Oceania Football Confederation means the governing body of Oceania football.

Official means:

- (a) a Club Official, Match Official or Team Official;
- (b) an employee, officer or director of FA, a Member Federation, a District Association or a Competition Administrator; or
- (c) a member of a standing committee or other council, committee, panel or body constituted by FA, a Member Federation, a District Association or a Competition Administrator.

Original means an original document, or a digital copy properly executed via any digital or other means as notified by FA from time to time.

Parent Club means the International Club or Club (as applicable) from which the registration of a Player subject to Loan is, will be, or has been transferred to a Loan Club for the term of the Loan.

Player means any person who is, from time to time, registered to play at a Club, registered to participate in a MiniRoos program, registered to participate in any other football program delivered by FA, a Member Federation, a District Association or a Club, or selected as a playing member of a National Team, regardless of gender, age or status as an Amateur or Professional.

Player Passport means the form of document that records each Player's club for which the Player has been registered since the season of their 12th birthday in chronological order as specified in *Prescribed Form NRSTR07 (Player Passport)*.

Player Roster means the roster of players who are eligible to participate in a Competition in accordance with these Regulations and any applicable regulations of FA, the Member Federation, or a Competition Administrator (as applicable).

Prescribed Form means a mandatory form as prescribed and distributed by FA from time to time and may include an electronic form used in the National Online Registration System.

Professional has the meaning prescribed in article 5.1(b).

Professional Competition means a Competition in which there is at least one (1) Professional registered.

Professional Player Contract means the mandatory form of contract for:

- (a) the casual employment of a Professional as specified in *Prescribed Form NRSTR05 (Professional Player Contract)*; or
- (b) a Player in a National League, as specified by the Competition Administrator.

Records has the meaning prescribed in article 18.3(b).

Registration Period means the period of time in which a Player must be registered with a Club as specified in article 6.10.

Regulations means these National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations as promulgated by FA from time to time.

Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players or **RSTPs** means the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players promulgated by FIFA from time to time.

Replacement Player means a player employed by a National League Club on a short-term basis to replace an injured or National Team player in accordance with the relevant Competition Rules.

Representative Team means a team representing a State or Territory, a region, or an Institute that participates in a Competition solely against other Representative Teams.

Season means the period of time starting with the first Match of a Competition and ending on the last Match of that Competition and must be in accordance with the Domestic Match Calendar.

Solidarity Contribution means the proportion of a Transfer Fee for a player to be distributed to clubs involved in the education and training of that player in accordance with article 14.8.

Specified Transaction means a Transaction where all parties involved are defined and identified.

Sporting Just Cause has the meaning prescribed in article 10.3 of these Regulations.

Taxation Information means information with respect to a person's affairs that is, or has been, in the possession of the Commissioner of Taxation.

Team Official means any personnel involved with the management, preparation or participation of a Club's team (whether paid or unpaid), including the coaches, managers, medical staff (including team or match day doctor), physiotherapists, gear persons and other support staff.

Termination Notice has the meaning prescribed in article 10.2(b).

Third Party means, in relation to third party ownership of a player's economic rights, a party other than the two clubs transferring a player from one to the other, or any previous club, with which the player has been registered.

Training Compensation has the meaning prescribed in the FIFA Statutes.

Transaction means:

- (a) the employment, registration, or deregistration of a Player with a Club;
- (b) the employment of an Accredited coach with a Club or FA;
- (c) the transfer of the registration of a Player from one Club to another Club; or
- (d) the creation, termination, or variation of the terms of employment of a Player or an Accredited coach.

Transfer Fee means any payment or fee payable to a club in consideration of the transfer of a player who has a current player contract with that club.

Visa Player means a Player that is not an Australian citizen, nor resident in Australia on a visa which entitles the holder to permanent residency, and who requires a valid visa or work permit to enter Australia, whether to play football as an Amateur or Professional.

Wellington Phoenix means the football club known as “Wellington Phoenix FC” operated by Welnix LP (No. 2553524) and as licensed to participate in the A-Leagues by FA from time to time.

1.2 Interpretation

- (a) In these Regulations:
 - (i) any use of the word ‘includes’ or words such as ‘for example’ or ‘such as’ do not limit anything else that is included in general speech;
 - (ii) references to natural persons are gender neutral;
 - (iii) the singular case applies to the plural and vice-versa;
 - (iv) any reference to ‘\$’ or ‘dollars’ is to Australian dollars, unless expressly stated otherwise; and
 - (v) any term used but not defined has the meaning given to it in the FA Statutes.
- (b) Except for a matter determined in accordance with the Grievance Procedure, FA will interpret all terms of the FA Statutes (including these Regulations) and any such interpretation will be final and binding on every person.

2 OBJECTIVES AND APPLICATION

2.1 Introduction

- (a) These Regulations regulate the conduct of football competitions and matches in Australia. In particular, these Regulations regulate the status, eligibility, registration, contracting, payments, and loan and transfer of players who enter into, participate in, and leave football in Australia.
- (b) These Regulations form part of the FA Statutes.

2.2 Objectives

The objectives of these Regulations are to:

- (a) promote, develop and protect the game of football in Australia in all its forms for participants of all abilities and skill levels;
- (b) ensure football is regulated in a consistent and co-ordinated manner across the states, territories, districts, zones and clubs;
- (c) ensure young players and officials are adequately protected;
- (d) provide for stability in the contractual relations between clubs and professional players;
- (e) develop elite pathways and career paths for football players and officials within Australia;
- (f) maximise the attractiveness of football and Australia’s international competitiveness in world football;

- (g) ensure the operations and conduct of Football Agents, including Football Agent Services, align with the objectives of these Regulations, and the transfer system generally; and
- (h) align the Australian registration system with the FIFA Statutes and the AFC Statutes.

2.3 Application and Scope

These Regulations:

- (a) apply to FA, Member Federations, District Associations, Competition Administrators, Clubs, Players, Officials and Football Agents (**Members**);
- (b) apply to all forms of organised football under FA's jurisdiction, including, but not limited to, eleven-a-side or outdoor, modified football, futsal, indoor, beach, summer football, MiniRoos and schools football;
- (c) continue to apply to a Member even after that Member's association, registration, employment or engagement has ended, if that Member breached these Regulations while they were a Member; and
- (d) do not limit or restrict the application of the FIFA Statutes or the AFC Statutes.

2.4 FA Jurisdiction and Obligations

- (a) FA, as the member of FIFA for Australia, is responsible for the organisation, promotion and administration of football throughout Australia. Accordingly, it has jurisdiction over all Matches and Competitions within Australia.
- (b) FA must:
 - (i) comply with these Regulations and ensure that any Competition Rules are not inconsistent with these Regulations;
 - (ii) ensure compliance of these Regulations by Member Federations, Clubs, Players, Officials, and Football Agents;
 - (iii) investigate any complaint about a breach of these Regulations by or against a party within its jurisdiction;
 - (iv) impose disciplinary sanctions against a party within its jurisdiction found to have breached these Regulations; and
 - (v) provide appropriate education and training to those who manage and implement these Regulations.

2.5 Member Federation Jurisdiction and Mandate

- (a) Each Member Federation, as a member of FA, is responsible for the organisation, promotion and administration of football throughout its own state, territory or region and has jurisdiction to stage or sanction Competitions or Matches within its own boundaries.

- (b) FA grants each Member Federation a mandate to govern the implementation and enforcement of these Regulations within that Member Federation's jurisdiction, subject to any contrary provision in these Regulations. That mandate remains in force unless suspended or revoked by FA in writing in accordance with article 17.2.
- (c) A Member Federation must:
 - (i) comply with these Regulations and ensure that any Competition Rules are not inconsistent with these Regulations;
 - (ii) ensure compliance of these Regulations by District Associations, Competition Administrators, Clubs, Players, Officials, and Football Agents within its jurisdiction;
 - (iii) investigate any complaint about a breach of these Regulations by or against a party within its jurisdiction;
 - (iv) impose disciplinary sanctions against a party within its jurisdiction found to have breached these Regulations; and
 - (v) provide appropriate education and training to those who manage and implement these Regulations.

3 COMPETITIONS AND CLUBS

3.1 Domestic Match Calendar

- (a) Any and all Competitions and Matches must be played in accordance with the Domestic Match Calendar.
- (b) A Competition Administrator seeking to stage a Competition or Match otherwise than in accordance with the Domestic Match Calendar as prescribed in article 3.1(a) must apply in writing for FA's prior approval, in the manner prescribed by FA from time to time.
- (c) FA may approve such application made in accordance with article 3.1(b) in its sole and absolute discretion and, notwithstanding article 19.2, the decision of FA in accordance with this article 3.1(c) is final and may not be appealed.

3.2 Registration of Competitions

- (a) A Competition must be registered with FA by the Competition Administrator using *Prescribed Form NRSTR01 (Application for Registration of Competition)* in the manner as prescribed by FA from time to time.
- (b) By the act of registration, the Competition Administrator agrees to comply with the FA Statutes, including these Regulations, the Code of Conduct and Ethics, and the Grievance Procedure.

3.3 Competition Rules

- (a) A Competition Administrator must have Competition Rules to govern the administration and management of the Competition under its control.
- (b) Competition Rules:
 - (i) may cover areas relating to the management and rules of the Competition, including:
 - (A) season draws and fixtures;
 - (B) competition format and points or placing system;
 - (C) substitutions and technical areas;
 - (D) minimum and maximum player rosters;
 - (E) minimum and maximum player payments; or
 - (F) any other matter referred to in these Regulations;
 - (ii) may include procedural requirements to facilitate the staging of the Competition;
 - (iii) may include age-appropriate requirements, including modified teams, rules or field restrictions, or, subject to any requirements or policies promulgated by FA from time to time, gender specific requirements, including females participating in male teams or Competitions;
 - (iv) cannot be inconsistent with the FA Statutes, any term of these Regulations, the Laws of the Game or the Disciplinary Regulations; and
 - (v) must be submitted to the relevant Member Federation or FA (as applicable) for approval prior to application to that Competition.

3.4 Registration of Clubs

- (a) A Club must be registered with FA using *Prescribed Form NRSTR02 (Application for Registration of Football Club)* or *Prescribed Form NRSTR02A (Application for Registration of a Professional Leagues Club)* (as applicable), in the manner as prescribed by FA from time to time. By the act of registration, a Club agrees to comply with the FA Statutes, including these Regulations, the Code of Conduct and Ethics, and the Grievance Procedure.
- (b) In order for a Club to maintain its registration with FA that Club must agree to the terms of registration (including agreement to comply with the FA Statutes) and ensure that the requisite details including contact information are updated, on an annual basis in the National Online Registration System.
- (c) If a Club does not register any Players in a Competition for a period of 12 months, that Club's registration will lapse, and the Club will be deemed inactive on the National Online Registration System. FA may retain information in relation to the Club for record-keeping purposes.

3.5 Club Names and Logos

- (a) A Club's name or logo must not contain any words or images (whether in isolation or combination and whether directly or indirectly) which FA determines in its sole and absolute discretion to be offensive, undesirable, repulsive, vulgar, vilifying, discriminatory or that are likely to mislead or incite hatred or violence.
- (b) FA may refuse the registration of, or de-register, a Club in its sole and absolute discretion if a Club fails to comply with article 3.5(a). However, FA will consult with the relevant Member Federation where applicable prior to any such refusal or act of de-registration.
- (c) If a Club wishes to change its Club name or Club logo, it must submit a duly executed *Prescribed Form NRSTR02B (Change of Club Name or Logo)* to the Club's Member Federation or FA, as the case may be, in the manner prescribed by FA from time to time. A change to a Club's name or logo will not take effect until it is approved by FA with such approval to be granted in FA's sole and absolute discretion but following consultation with the relevant Member Federation where applicable.

3.6 Competing Outside Local Member Federation

- (a) Subject to article 3.6(b), if a Club wishes to participate in a Competition under the jurisdiction of a Member Federation other than where that Club is domiciled (**Adopted Member Federation**), that Club must:
 - (i) inform in writing the Member Federation in which it is domiciled (**Local Member Federation**) of its intention to do so; and
 - (ii) apply to the Adopted Member Federation for approval.
- (b) The Adopted Member Federation must first consider and determine whether to approve the Club's application. If the Adopted Member Federation wishes to approve the Club's application, it must then receive the Local Member Federation's consent before such approval will be granted. If approval is granted by both the Adopted Member Federation and the Local Member Federation, the Club will be permitted to participate in the Competition.
- (c) If a Club's application under article 3.6(a) above is denied by either the Adopted Member Federation or the Local Member Federation, the Club may apply to FA for approval. FA will then determine the matter in its absolute discretion and may take into account the following considerations:
 - (i) the reasons why either the Adopted Member Federation or Local Member Federation denied the application;
 - (ii) the integrity of the relevant Competitions;
 - (iii) development of the game in Australia; and
 - (iv) any other factor considered relevant in all the circumstances.

3.7 Institute Teams

- (a) An Institute may apply to a Competition Administrator to compete in its Competition. If a Competition Administrator refuses an Institute's application to participate in a Competition, that Institute may apply to FA to seek a determination that the Institute be permitted to participate in the Competition.
- (b) FA may require a Competition Administrator to permit an Institute to compete in a Competition. FA will determine the matter in its absolute discretion and may take into account the following considerations:
 - (i) the reasons why the Competition Administrator denied the application;
 - (ii) the integrity of the Competition;
 - (iii) the development pathway of elite players in Australia;
 - (iv) development of the game in Australia; and
 - (v) any other factor considered relevant in all the circumstances.

4 FOOTBALL AGENTS

4.1 Football Agent Regulation

- (a) The FIFA Statutes, in particular the FIFA Football Agent Regulations, govern the activities and Football Agent Services of Football Agents in respect of transactions that have an International Dimension.
- (b) The FA Statutes, including, but not limited to, these Regulations, govern the domestic activities and Football Agent Services of Football Agents that have a Domestic Dimension.

4.2 Licensing and Registration of Football Agents

- (a) All Football Agents providing Football Agent Services to a Client in Australia must be:
 - (i) licensed by FIFA in accordance with the FIFA Football Agent Regulations; and
 - (ii) registered with FA in accordance with the FA Statutes, including these Regulations.
- (b) A Football Agent must comply with these Regulations, including Schedule 3.
- (c) A Football Agent must not participate in Football Agent Services unless and until that Football Agent has complied with all the requirements set out in these Regulations, including, but not limited to, article 4.2(a) and Schedule 3.
- (d) By applying to FIFA for a licence and/or registering with FA as a Football Agent, the Football Agent agrees to bound by and comply with the FA Statutes.

5 STATUS OF PLAYERS

5.1 Amateur or Professional Player

- (a) A Player participating in football is either an Amateur or a Professional.
- (b) A Professional is a Player who has a written contract with a Club, under which they are paid more than the expenses they effectively incur to play football for that Club.
- (c) An Amateur is any Player that is not a Professional. A Club may pay or reimburse a Player any expenses incurred by that Player without affecting their status as an Amateur, including, but not limited to, travel, kit, equipment or insurance premiums. If, however, an Amateur is paid or reimbursed more than \$115 a week by a Club, the onus is on that Club to satisfy the Competition Administrator that the amount paid accurately reflects the expenses incurred by that Player. If the Club fails to satisfy this onus, that Player will be deemed to be a Professional.
- (d) A Player's Club must ensure that the Player's status as either Amateur or Professional is accurately recorded in the National Online Registration System at all times.

5.2 Age Restrictions

- (a) A Player must not be signed as a Professional if:
 - (i) they are under the statutory school leaving age in the state or territory where the Player will be registered; and
 - (ii) the Player and the Club are unable to comply with the applicable statutory work requirements.
- (b) The time for determining relevant age is at the time of the Player's registration.

5.3 Reacquisition of Amateur Status

- (a) A Player registered as a Professional cannot re-register as an Amateur until at least 30 days after their last Match as a Professional.
- (b) No compensation is payable on the reacquisition of Amateur status. If a Player re-registers as a Professional within 30 months of being reinstated as an Amateur, then Training Compensation may be paid, if applicable, in accordance with article 14.

5.4 Change of Status from Amateur to Professional

Where a Player is initially registered as an Amateur and subsequently changes status from Amateur to Professional during a Season, it is the responsibility of the Player's Club to ensure that the Player's status is updated in the National Online Registration System and that the Player's registration is otherwise in accordance with this article 4, and these Regulations.

5.5 Termination of Activity

A Professional who ends their career on the expiry of a Professional Player Contract, and an Amateur who terminates their activity, will remain registered with FA for a period of 30 months from the date the Player made their last appearance for a Club in a Match.

6 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

6.1 Freedom of Choice

- (a) A Player may apply to be registered with any Club of their choice.
- (b) Subject to article 6.1(c) below, a Competition Administrator or Club may only refuse to accept an application from a Player based on legitimate competition reasons in accordance with Competition Rules, including, but not limited to, restrictions on the number of players, available fields or coaches.
- (c) FA may:
 - (i) refuse the application from a Player; or
 - (ii) rescind the registration of a Player,in its sole and absolute discretion, including in circumstances where the registration of such a Player brings, or may bring, FA, any of its sponsors, a Football Administrator or Football generally into disrepute or which is otherwise prejudicial to the interests of FA or Football generally.
- (d) A decision by FA to refuse an application in accordance with article 6.1(c), is final and may not be reviewed or appealed.

6.2 Registration Mandatory

- (a) A person must be registered with FA before they can play for a Club, participate in a MiniRoos program, or participate in any other football program delivered by FA, a Member Federation, a District Association or a Club. By the act of registration, a Player agrees to abide by the FA Statutes and, if applicable, the FIFA Statutes and the AFC Statutes.
- (b) Subject to article 6.12(b), a Club must not play any person in any Match unless that person is registered with FA as a Player with that Club in accordance with this article 6.
- (c) A Member Federation, a District Association or a Club must not allow any person to participate in a MiniRoos program, or participate in any other football program that it delivers, unless that person is registered with FA as a Player in the relevant program in accordance with this article 6.

6.3 Purpose of Registration

A Player must only be registered with a Club for the purpose of playing organised football, unless a Player is required to be registered with a Club for mere technical reasons to secure the transparency of consecutive transactions.

6.4 Process for the Registration of an Amateur

- (a) All Amateurs must be registered via the National Online Registration System.
- (b) To register for a Competition other than a National League, the Amateur must self-register via the National Online Registration System, and the Club accepts the Player's registration.
- (c) To register for the Australian Championship only, the Amateur must:
 - (i) self-register via the National Online Registration System; and
 - (ii) lodge with FA, via the National Online Registration System, a copy of the duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form NRSTR04B (Application for Registration of an Australian Championship Player)*.
- (d) To register for a National Leagues only, but excluding the Australian Championship, the National League Club with which the Amateur wishes to be registered must validly lodge with FA and the Competition Administrator:
 - (i) a duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form NRSTR04A (Application for Registration of an A-Leagues Player)*; and
 - (ii) a signed copy of the agreement between the Club and the Amateur which sets out the terms on which the Club will register the Player to play for the Club and the obligations imposed on and rights granted to the parties during the term of that agreement (examples of such agreements include the A-League Women Amateur Agreement and the A-Leagues Youth Development Agreement).
- (e) Anytime a Player registers for the first time with a Club, the Player must provide the Club with evidence of the Player's name and age, by producing an original birth certificate, passport or driver's licence. The Club must sight that evidence and satisfy itself as to its accuracy prior to approving the Player's registration via the National Online Registration System.

6.5 Application Process for Registration of a Professional

- (a) All Professionals must be registered via the National Online Registration System.

National Premier Leagues

- (b) To register as a Professional for the National Premier Leagues only:
 - (i) the Player must self-register via the National Online Registration System; and

- (ii) the Player or the National Premier Leagues Club with which the Professional wishes to be registered must validly lodge with FA, via the National Online Registration System:
 - (A) a copy of the duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form NRSTR04 (Application for Registration of Professional Player)*; and
 - (B) a copy of the Professional Player Contract signed by the Club, the Player and, if applicable, the Agent/s; and
- (iii) the National Premier League Club with which the Professional wishes to be registered must:
 - (A) sight evidence of the Player's name and age, which is evidenced by viewing an original birth certificate, passport or driver's licence; and
 - (B) if applicable, sight and retain evidence of the Player's right to work in Australia (e.g., passport or visa).

Australian Championship

- (c) To register as a Professional for the Australian Championship only:
 - (i) the Player must:
 - (A) self-register via the National Online Registration System; and
 - (B) validly lodge with FA, via the National Online Registration System, a copy of the duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form NRSTR04B (Application for Registration of an Australian Championship Player)*; and
 - (C) validly lodge with FA, via the National Online Registration System, a copy of the original Professional Player Contract signed by the Club, the Player and, if applicable, the Agent/s; and
 - (ii) the Australian Championship Club with which the Professional wishes to be registered must:
 - (A) sight evidence of the Player's name and age, which is evidenced by viewing an original birth certificate, passport or driver's licence; and
 - (B) if applicable, sight and retain evidence of the Player's right to work in Australia (e.g., passport or visa).

National Leagues (excluding the Australian Championship)

- (d) For a National League only, but excluding the Australian Championship, to register a Professional, the National League Club with which the Professional wishes to be registered must validly lodge with FA and with the Competition Administrator:
 - (i) a duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form NRSTR04A (Application for Registration of an A-Leagues Player)*; and
 - (ii) a copy of the original Professional Player Contract signed by the Club, the Player and, if applicable, the Agent/s; and

- (iii) evidence of the Player's name and age, which is evidenced by producing an original birth certificate, passport or driver's licence; and
- (iv) if applicable, evidence of the Player's right to work in Australia (e.g., passport or visa).

6.6 Commencement and Duration of a Player's Registration

- (a) Subject to article 6.6(b), the registration of an Amateur or a Professional is effective from the date the Player is made active by their Club within the National Online Registration System and continues:
 - (i) in the case of an Amateur, for a Season and, unless it is terminated earlier in accordance with article 12, ends on the later of the end of that Season or the time as specified in the Competition Rules; or
 - (ii) in the case of a Professional, ends in accordance with the Player's Professional Player Contract.
- (b) A Player may not be made 'active' in the National Online Registration System unless and until:
 - (i) the application to register that Player complies with the requirements of these Regulations;
 - (ii) that Player has been assigned a FIFA ID in the National Online Registration System; and
 - (iii) where that Player was previously registered with a Club, a National Transfer has been created in and captured by the National DTMS.

6.7 National DTMS

- (a) A Club must not permit a Player to participate in a Match unless that Player is validly registered in accordance with these Regulations, in particular, having, in the case of a National Transfer:
 - (i) accurately entered all the mandatory information required for the purposes of requesting a Domestic Transfer Certificate in the National DTMS; and
 - (ii) received valid Domestic Transfer Certificate via the National DTMS in respect of that Player.
- (b) A Player must not participate in a Match unless that Player is validly registered in accordance with these Regulations, in particular having provided the Player's new Club with truthful and accurate information regarding the Player's former Club for the purposes of the new Club creating a National Transfer and receiving a valid Domestic Transfer Certificate.
- (c) A Club requesting a Domestic Transfer Certificate must enter all mandatory information and upload all mandatory documents in the National by no later than the closure of the relevant Registration Period.

- (d) All Clubs involved in a National Transfer must use all reasonable endeavours, as soon as practicable and in a reasonable time, to comply with these Regulations and complete a National Transfer and for the issue a Domestic Transfer Certificate.
- (e) A failure to comply with article 6.7(c) may constitute a breach of these Regulations and, in accordance with article 17, sanctions may result in the imposition of sanctions.

6.8 International Transfer Certificate

- (a) If a Player was previously registered with an International Club, FA must request an ITC from the National Association of that International Club via FIFA TMS.
- (b) Subject to article 6.11 and the FIFA Statutes, FA may only request an ITC for:
 - (i) a Professional Player; and
 - (ii) an Amateur Player who is participating in a Professional Competition, from another National Association during the Registration Periods for FA, as specified in FIFA TMS.
- (c) Where an ITC is required for a Minor that is ten (10) years or older FA must, in accordance with the FIFA Statutes, only request the ITC from the other National Association if the corresponding Minor application has been approved by the FIFA Players' Status Chamber of the Football Tribunal or if the Minor is eligible to be registered under FA's limited minor exemption.
- (d) A Player cannot be registered unless and until the ITC is received by FA via FIFA TMS or confirmation is received that an ITC is not required.
- (e) If FA does not receive a response from the other National Association to an ITC request made via FIFA TMS within 72 hours of that request being made by FA, then the Player may immediately be registered on a provisional basis in accordance with the FIFA Statutes. In all cases, the issuance of an ITC is without prejudice to any contractual dispute between the Player, their former club and/or their new Club.
- (f) Where a Player requires an ITC to be eligible to play in a Competition other than a National League, a Player is only eligible to complete their registration in the National Online Registration System after FA provides the relevant Member Federation with a copy of that Player's ITC.
- (g) A Player is not eligible to play for their new Club until FA has either:
 - (i) confirmed receipt of the ITC, entered the player registration information in FIFA TMS and registered the player in the National Online Registration System; or
 - (ii) registered the player in the National Online Registration System and entered the player registration information in FIFA TMS, provided no response to the ITC request within the 72 hour window.

- (h) Where a Player does not require an ITC to be eligible to play in a Competition other than a National League, registration takes effect on the date that FA provides the relevant Member Federation with written confirmation that an ITC is not required.
- (i) An ITC is not required for a Player under the age of ten (10) years.
- (j) In accordance with the FIFA Statutes, a separate ITC is required for futsal which is distinct from the ITC used in eleven-a-side football. An international futsal transfer certificate can be requested outside of FIFA TMS.

6.9 First Registration Requiring FIFA Approval

Any Minor seeking to be registered as a Player who has not previously been registered with a Club or an International Club and who is not an Australian national must, in accordance with the FIFA Statutes, obtain approval from the FIFA Players' Status Chamber of the Football Tribunal in order for the registration to proceed, unless the Minor is eligible to be registered under FA's limited minor exemption.

6.10 Registration Periods

- (a) Unless otherwise authorised by FA, a Player may be registered only during one (1) of two (2) Registration Periods set or approved by FA from time to time comprised of:
 - (i) a period no shorter than eight (8) weeks and no longer than 12 weeks to begin after the completion of a Season and before the start of the next Season; and
 - (ii) a period no shorter than four (4) weeks and no longer than eight (8) weeks to occur in the middle of a Season.
- (b) The dates of the Registration Periods for a National League and any Professional Competition are as specified in FIFA TMS and as notified by FA from time to time.
- (c) FA will enter the two (2) Registration Periods for the National Leagues and Professional Competitions into FIFA TMS. These Registration Periods apply to the registration of all:
 - (i) Professional Players; and
 - (ii) Amateur Players seeking to register for a Club in a Professional Competition.
- (d) Where an Amateur:
 - (i) is registered to a Club in an Amateur Competition; and
 - (ii) as a consequence of such registration, during the same Season is eligible to participate in a Professional Competition for that Club,
that Amateur is only eligible to participate in the Professional Competition:
 - (iii) if the Amateur is registered to that Club during a Registration Period; or
 - (iv) from the date on which the next Registration Period commences.

- (e) Registration Periods do not apply to Amateur Competitions. For such Competitions, the Competition Administrator must specify in the Competition Rules any timeframes within which Players may be registered, taking into account the integrity of the Competition.

6.11 Registration Outside Registration Periods

Subject to DTC or ITC requirements in the FIFA Statutes, FA or a Member Federation (as the case requires) may register a Player outside the Registration Periods only if:

- (a) the Player is a Professional and their Professional Player Contract has naturally expired or has been mutually terminated prior to the end of the immediately preceding Registration Period;
- (b) the Player is a goalkeeper who does not require an ITC (but requires a DTC) and FA or the Member Federation, as the case may be, is satisfied in its absolute discretion, that the Club has a justifiable reason for the request and has provided appropriate evidence;
- (c) the Player is a Professional and unilaterally terminated their Professional Player Contract with Just Cause, or their Professional Player Contract has been unilaterally terminated without Just Cause by their Club;
- (d) the female Player is temporarily replacing another female Player that has taken Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave or Family Leave. The period of the contract of the temporary replacement shall, unless otherwise mutually agreed, be from the date of registration until the day prior to the start of the first Registration Period after the return of the female Player that has taken Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave or Family Leave;
- (e) the female Player has completed their Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave, Family Leave or recovery related to pregnancy, subject to their contractual status;
- (f) the Player is a Professional and their Professional Player Contract has expired or been terminated as a result of COVID-19, regardless of the date of expiry or termination;
- (g) competition regulations for the FIFA Club World Cup 2025™ establish further exceptions and the Player satisfies any of those exceptions; or
- (h) the Player does not require an ITC (but requires a DTC) and FA or the Member Federation, as the case may be, is satisfied in its absolute discretion that exceptional circumstances exist that justify permitting the Player to be registered outside the Registration Periods.

6.12 Player Passport

- (a) Each Player registered with FA must have a Player Passport containing the relevant details of the Player as set out in *Prescribed Form NRSTR07 (Player Passport)* including the clubs for which the Player has been registered since the season of their 12th birthday. If a Player's birthday falls between seasons, the club for which they

were registered in the Season following their birthday must be listed in the Player Passport.

- (b) Player Passports are required for the international movement of Players and to facilitate the payment of any Training Compensation or Solidarity Contribution that is payable in accordance with article 14.
- (c) Member Federations and Clubs must assist FA in the implementation and completion of Player Passports.

6.13 Prohibition on Dual Registration

- (a) A Player can be registered with only one (1) Club in each form of the game (such as eleven-a-side or futsal) at a time.
- (b) A Player registered with FA can play only for the Club (in the relevant form of the game) to which they are registered unless:
 - (i) the Player is playing for a Representative Team;
 - (ii) the Player is playing for a schools team that is not a Club;
 - (iii) the Player is playing in a benefit, testimonial or charity match if that Player has written special permission from FA or a Member Federation as the case requires;
 - (iv) the Player is playing in a trial match provided the Player has the written permission of their Club and plays in no more than two (2) trial matches or such other number of matches as may be specified in Competition Rules; or
 - (v) there are any other exceptional circumstances approved by FA in its absolute discretion, including the nature and extent of injuries, suspension or Representative Team call ups, or a National League Player needing to maintain fitness when a National League is out of season.
- (c) A Player who, in accordance with article 6.13(b), plays for a Club other than the Club to which they are registered may not be deemed an ineligible player in any Competition Rules solely by reason of that Player not being registered to play for the Club.
- (d) A Player may be registered for a maximum of three (3) Clubs in each form of the game during a Season. During this period, the Player is only eligible to play in Matches (other than friendly or trial matches) for two (2) Clubs in each form of the game. This article 6.13(d) does not affect the operation of article 6.12(a).
- (e) If the Player plays in a National League, the different Season timings of the Competitions that the Player is seeking to register for will be taken into consideration. Competition regulations for the FIFA Club World Cup 2025™ may establish further exceptions.

- (f) In accordance with these Regulations and any applicable Competition Rules, a Replacement Player or a National League Player (as applicable) who is on Loan to a Club or Institute must for the duration of the Loan:
 - (i) be registered to the Loan Club; and
 - (ii) not be registered to the National League Player's or the Replacement Player's (as applicable) Parent Club.

6.14 Prohibition on Bridge Transfers

- (a) A Player or a Club must not be involved in a Bridge Transfer.
- (b) It is presumed that, unless otherwise determined by FA or a Member Federation (as applicable) in its sole and absolute discretion, if two (2) consecutive transfers between a Club and another Club or International Club involving the same Player occur within a period of 16 weeks, the parties, being the Player and the Club(s) involved in those two (2) transfers have participated in a Bridge Transfer.
- (c) The onus is on the party seeking to rebut the presumption in article 6.14(b) above to satisfy FA or a Member Federation, as applicable, that this is not a Bridge Transfer.
- (d) The decision of FA or a Member Federation (as applicable) taken in accordance with article 6.14(b) above is final and may not be appealed.

6.15 Registration Fees

- (a) A Club may charge a reasonable fee to Players provided that:
 - (i) it discloses in the National Online Registration System all fees, levies and charges imposed by the Club, its District Association and/or Member Federation, and the national registration fee payable to FA; and
 - (ii) the fee reflects actual expenses related to the Player's participation in a Competition.
- (b) The onus is on the party imposing the fee, levy or charge to satisfy FA that it is reasonable.

6.16 Lodgement of Prescribed Forms with FA

Each Competition Administrator must provide FA with copies of all the received Prescribed Forms as soon as reasonably practicable, and in any event within seven (7) days, following a request by FA. If those forms are not received by FA in that time, FA may annul or suspend the registration of any Player to which such forms relate.

7 PLAYER ROSTERS

7.1 Use of Player Rosters

- (a) Subject to article 7.2 below, FA or a Competition Administrator may:

- (i) require a Club participating in a Competition to have a Player Roster as a condition of eligibility to participate in that Competition;
- (ii) prescribe additional requirements, conditions or rules in respect of the Player Roster that are applicable to a specific Competition, which may include, but are not limited to:
 - (A) the minimum and maximum number of players each Club may register on its Player Roster for that Competition;
 - (B) any restrictions regarding certain types of Players, such as age-eligibility, homegrown Players, or Visa Players; or
 - (C) conditions regulating the inclusion of Players on a Club's Player Roster (for example, the player points system);
- (b) The Player Roster requirements, conditions or rules for a Competition:
 - (i) cannot be inconsistent with any term of these Regulations, the Laws of the Game or the Disciplinary Regulations; and
 - (ii) must be submitted to the relevant Member Federation or FA (as applicable) for approval prior to application to that Competition.

7.2 Player Roster Rules for Specific Competitions

- (a) For the Competitions set out in Schedules 1, 2 and 4, Clubs and Competition Administrators must comply with the Player Roster Rules applicable to each Competition as set out in the respective Schedule.
- (b) A Player must not participate in any Competition which is specified in Schedules 1, 2 and 4 unless and until the Player is included on the Club's Player Roster for the relevant Competition in accordance with the applicable Schedule.

8 VISA PLAYER AND GUEST PLAYER

8.1 Player from an International Club

If a Player was previously registered with another National Association, the provisions of the FIFA Statutes must be complied with, including the receipt by FA of a valid ITC from that National Association.

8.2 Visa Player

- (a) If a Club wishes to register a Visa Player as a Professional, that Club must ensure it meets all the legal requirements for acquiring and maintaining a valid visa or work permit for that Visa Player including, where applicable, a letter of endorsement from FA, the payment of any minimum salary, and any sponsorship requirements.
- (b) These Regulations apply equally to Visa Players, including, but not limited to, the submission of Prescribed Forms, Registration Periods, Professional Player Contracts and ITCs.

- (c) Competition Rules may specify additional rules for Visa Players, including:
 - (i) that the term of a Professional Player Contract is not to exceed the term of the visa issued to that Visa Player;
 - (ii) to ensure the integrity of the Competition and the objectives of these Regulations are maintained; and
 - (iii) any maximum number of Visa Players per Club per Season.

8.3 Guest Player

- (a) These Regulations apply equally to Guest Players, including the submission of Prescribed Forms, Professional Player Contracts and ITCs.
- (b) If a Competition Administrator wishes to allow Guest Players in its Competition, its Competition Rules must ensure:
 - (i) the integrity of the Competition is maintained, including any finals series; and
 - (ii) any additional rules are clearly specified, including any minimum or maximum numbers of Guest Players or Matches to be played.

9 CONTRACTING

9.1 Professional Player Contract

A player contract between a Club and a Professional must:

- (a) be in the form of the Professional Player Contract and the body of which must not be amended;
- (b) be for a term of not less than from the date of registration until the end of the Season;
- (c) be for a term of no more than five (5) years unless the Professional is a Minor, in which case the term must be no longer than three (3) years;
- (d) comply with any FIFA Statutes and FA Statutes in relation to Football Agents; and
- (e) other than in relation to a National League, have an expiry date of no later than 30 days after the last Match in the final year in which the Player's services are to be provided or as otherwise specified in Competition Rules.

9.2 Not Subject to Medical Examination or Visa

The validity of a Professional Player Contract must not be made subject to the positive results of a medical examination or to the acquisition of a visa or work permit. The prospective Club must make any necessary investigation, study, test, medical examination or other appropriate action before entering into the Professional Player Contract.

9.3 Restrictions on Negotiations

A Club that wishes to enter into a playing contract with a Professional who is subject to an existing playing contract must:

- (a) if the Professional's existing playing contract is due to expire in six (6) months or more, obtain the prior written consent of the Professional's current Club and the Professional before it begins negotiations with that Professional; or
- (b) if the Professional's existing playing contract is due to expire within six (6) months, notify the Professional's current Club and the Professional in writing before it begins negotiations with that Professional; and
- (c) not enter into any playing contract with that Professional until their existing playing contract has expired or is due to expire within six (6) months.

9.4 Additional Futsal Requirements

- (a) A Professional under contract with an eleven-a-side Club may sign a second Professional Player Contract with a different futsal Club only if they obtain the prior written consent of that eleven-a-side Club.
- (b) A Professional under contract with a futsal Club may sign a second Professional Player Contract with a different eleven-a-side Club only if they obtain the prior written consent of that futsal Club.

10 CONTRACTUAL STABILITY

10.1 Respect of Contract

- (a) A Professional Player Contract must be respected by all parties and cannot be unilaterally terminated or terminated other than in accordance with this article 10.
- (b) A Professional Player Contract may only be terminated:
 - (i) on expiration of its term;
 - (ii) by mutual written consent between the Club and the Professional and completing *Prescribed Form NRSTR09 (Mutual Termination of Professional Player Contract)*;
 - (iii) by a Club for Just Cause; or
 - (iv) by a Professional for Just Cause, including Sporting Just Cause.

10.2 Termination for Just Cause

- (a) In general, Just Cause shall exist in any circumstances in which a party can no longer reasonably and in good faith be expected to continue a contractual relationship.
- (b) If a party wishes to terminate a Professional Player Contract for Just Cause, that party must provide written notice to the other party specifying the reasons for the termination (**Termination Notice**) and provide a copy of the Termination Notice to the Competition Administrator at the same time. Any steps required to be taken by a party under a Professional Player Contract before giving rise to a right to terminate for Just Cause must be taken by that party before a Termination Notice may be issued.

- (c) If a party wishes to dispute a Termination Notice, that party must within seven (7) days of receipt of that Termination Notice refer the purported termination to the relevant Competition Administrator pursuant to its Grievance regulations and must at the same time provide a copy of that referral to FA. The Professional Player Contract will not be terminated until the earlier of:
 - (i) the party who disputes the Termination Notice advising the other party, in writing, that they have withdrawn their referral; or
 - (ii) final determination, as provided for in the relevant Competition Administrator's Grievance regulations, being issued (either in writing or verbally, whichever occurs the earlier) that the termination is valid.
- (d) If the Termination Notice is not disputed or if the Competition Administrator does not receive a copy of the dispute notice within the seven (7) days, the Professional will be automatically de-registered with that Club effective from the expiration of those seven (7) days.
- (e) If a party terminates a Professional Player Contract for Just Cause, the termination is without prejudice to any other right or remedy that party may have against the other party (or parties). Accordingly, a party may initiate a Grievance to recover any fees owing or compensation.
- (f) If a Professional terminates a Professional Player Contract for Just Cause, that Professional is entitled to transfer as a free agent to the football club of their choice. Accordingly, the Professional's Club is not entitled to a Transfer Fee.

10.3 Termination for Sporting Just Cause

- (a) A Professional has Sporting Just Cause to terminate their Professional Player Contract if that Professional:
 - (i) has appeared in fewer than 10% of Matches played by the Professional's Club during the Season for which the Player has made themselves available; or
 - (ii) can otherwise establish Sporting Just Cause. Sporting Just Cause is to be established on a case by case basis depending on the particular circumstances of the Professional, including:
 - (A) any injury or illness sustained;
 - (B) any suspension incurred;
 - (C) field position and position in the team (such as reserve goalkeeper);
 - (D) age; and
 - (E) reasonable expectations on the basis of past career.
- (b) If a Professional believes that they can establish Sporting Just Cause:
 - (i) that Professional must within seven (7) days after the last Match in which the Club participates in a Season give written notice to the Club setting out

- the particulars of the Sporting Just Cause and provide a copy of that notice to the Competition Administrator;
- (ii) the Club must within seven (7) days of receipt of the Professional's notice notify the Professional in writing as to whether the Club consents to the termination of the Professional Player Contract for Sporting Just Cause; and
 - (iii) if the Club does not consent and the Professional wishes to dispute that decision, they may initiate a Grievance in accordance with the Competition Administrator's Grievance regulations.
- (c) If a Professional terminates their Professional Player Contract for Sporting Just Cause in accordance with this article 10:
- (i) the Club must pay the Professional all annual salary, match payments and other amounts due up to the date of termination;
 - (ii) the Professional's registration with that Club will be terminated by FA; and
 - (iii) the Professional is entitled to transfer as a free agent to the football club of their choice.

10.4 Consequences of Termination Without Just Cause

- (a) If a Professional terminates a Professional Player Contract without Just Cause or Sporting Just Cause:
- (i) the termination is without prejudice to any other right or remedy that the Club may have, including the initiation of a Grievance to recover compensation; and
 - (ii) the Professional may also be subject to disciplinary sanctions in accordance with article 17, including ineligibility to register with a new Club for a specified period of time.
- (b) If a Club terminates a Professional Player Contract without Just Cause:
- (i) the termination is without prejudice to any other right or remedy that the Professional may have, including the initiation of a Grievance to recover compensation;
 - (ii) that Club may also be subject to disciplinary sanctions in accordance with article 17, including a ban on the registration of players for a specified period of time; and
 - (iii) Training Compensation is not payable to that Club (which is without prejudice to the rights of other relevant previous Clubs).
- (c) Any Club signing a Professional who has terminated their previous Professional Player Contract without Just Cause may be subject to a disciplinary sanction if, after having regard to the individual facts and circumstances of the case, it can be established that the new Club induced the Professional to breach the contract.

- (d) Any person subject to the FA Statutes, including an Official, or a Football Agent, who acts in a manner designed to induce a breach of contract between a Professional and a Club in order to facilitate the transfer of a Professional, may be subject to a disciplinary sanction.
- (e) In all cases, the party that has suffered as a result of a breach of contract is entitled to compensation. Subject to the provisions of article 20 and Annexe 4 of the RSTPs in relation to Training Compensation, and unless otherwise provided for in the contract, compensation for the breach shall be calculated taking into account the damage suffered, according to the “positive interest” principle, having regard to the individual facts and circumstances of the case, and with due consideration to Australian law.
- (f) Entitlement to compensation cannot be assigned to a third party. A Professional’s new Club shall be held jointly liable to pay compensation if, having regard to the individual facts and circumstances of the case, it can be established that the new Club induced the Professional to breach their contract.

10.5 No Unilateral Options

No party to a Professional Player Contract can have a unilateral option to renew that Professional Player Contract. Both parties must agree to a renewal and the terms of that renewal.

10.6 Overdue Payments

- (a) Clubs must comply with their financial obligations towards Professionals in accordance with the terms stipulated in a Professional Player Contract. Any Club found to have delayed a due payment for more than 30 days without a contractual basis may be subject to a sanction in the form set out at article 17.3(a), (b) and/or (c).
- (b) In order for a Club to be considered to be overdue in payment for the purpose of this article 10.6, the Professional must have notified the Club of the default in writing and granted a deadline of at least ten (10) days for the Club to comply with its financial obligations.
- (c) Notwithstanding this article 10.6, any dispute between a National Leagues Club and a National Leagues Player regarding the alleged non-payment of a National Leagues Player must be determined exclusively in accordance with the FA National Dispute Resolution Chamber Regulations.

10.7 Special Provisions Relating to Female Players

- (a) The validity of a Professional Player Contract may not be made subject to the taking of, or the result of, a pregnancy test, the Professional Player being or becoming pregnant during its term, being on Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave or Family Leave, or utilising rights related to maternity, adoption or family leave in general.

- (b) Female Players are entitled to Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave and Family Leave during the term of their Professional Player Contract, paid at the equivalent of two thirds of their contracted salary. Where a validly negotiated collective bargaining agreement contains provisions related to maternity, adoption and/or family leave, the respective provisions of the collective bargaining agreement shall prevail. Where no collective bargaining agreement exists, but where more favourable conditions are stipulated pursuant to Australian law, these more favourable conditions shall prevail.
- (c) If a Club unilaterally terminates a Professional Player Contract on the grounds of a Professional Player refusing to take a pregnancy test, being or becoming pregnant, being on Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave or Family Leave, or utilising rights related to maternity, adoption or family leave in general, the Club will be deemed to have terminated the Professional Player Contract without Just Cause. It shall be presumed, unless proven to the contrary, that the unilateral termination of a Professional Player Contract by a Club during a pregnancy or Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave or Family Leave occurred as a result of the Professional Player being or becoming pregnant, adopting a child or utilising rights related to Family Leave.
- (d) Where a Professional Player Contract has been terminated on the grounds stipulated in article (c) above:
 - (i) compensation due to a player shall be calculated as follows:
 - (A) in case the Professional Player did not sign any new Professional Player Contract following the termination of their previous Professional Player Contract, as a general rule, the compensation shall be equal to the residual value of the Professional Player Contract that was prematurely terminated;
 - (B) in case the Professional Player signed a new Professional Player Contract by the time of the decision, the value of the new Professional Player Contract for the period corresponding to the time remaining on the prematurely terminated Professional Player Contract shall be deducted from the residual value of the Professional Player Contract that was terminated early;
 - (C) in either case described above in sub-articles (A) and (B), the Professional Player shall be entitled to additional compensation corresponding to six (6) monthly salaries of the prematurely terminated Professional Player Contract; and
 - (D) collective bargaining agreements validly negotiated between employers' and employees' representatives in accordance with Australian law may deviate from the principles stipulated in sub-articles (A) to (C) above. The terms of such an agreement shall prevail;

- (ii) in addition to the obligation to pay compensation, sporting sanctions shall be imposed on any Club found to have unilaterally terminated a Professional Player Contract on the grounds of a Professional Player being or becoming pregnant, being on Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave or Family Leave, or utilising rights related to maternity, adoption or family leave in general. The Club shall be banned from registering any new female Players, either nationally or internationally, for two (2) entire and consecutive Registration Periods. The Club shall be able to register new female Players, either nationally or internationally, only as of the next Registration Period following the complete serving of the relevant sporting sanction. In particular, it may not make use of the exception and measures stipulated in article 6.11(d) of these Regulations in order to register Players at an earlier stage; and
 - (iii) the sanction provided for in sub-article (ii) above may be applied cumulatively with a fine.
- (e) Where a Professional Player becomes pregnant during the term of their Professional Player Contract, the following shall apply:
 - (i) the Professional Player has the right to continue providing sporting services to their Club (i.e. playing and training). In such cases, the Club has an obligation to respect the decision and formalise a plan for the Professional Player's continued sporting participation in a safe manner, prioritising their health and that of the unborn child. The Player shall be entitled to receive their full remuneration, until such time that they utilise Maternity Leave;
 - (ii) should the Professional Player deem that it is not safe for them to continue providing sporting services, or should they choose not to exercise their right to continue providing sporting services, the Club shall offer the Professional Player the possibility to provide employment services in an alternate manner. If the Professional Player renders their employment services in an alternate manner, or if the Club is unable to offer alternative employment services that can reasonably be expected in the context of the ongoing Professional Player Contract, the Professional Player shall be entitled to receive their full remuneration until such time that they utilise Maternity Leave;
 - (iii) if, for medical reasons related to a pregnancy, the Professional Player is unable to provide sporting or employment services in an alternate manner, then the Player is entitled to medical leave, subject to the production of a valid medical certificate issued by their personal gynaecologist or specialist medical practitioner. The Professional Player shall be entitled to full remuneration, until such time that they utilise Maternity Leave.
- (f) A pregnant Professional Player, adoptive parent or a Professional Player utilising rights related to Family Leave has the right, during the term of their Professional Player Contract, to:

- (i) independently determine the commencement date of their Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave or Family Leave, taking into consideration the minimum periods provided (cf. Definitions). Any Club that pressures or forces a Professional Player to take Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave or Family Leave at a specific time shall be sanctioned by the Disciplinary and Ethics Committee; and
 - (ii) return to football activity after the completion of their Maternity Leave, Adoption Leave or Family Leave. For a Player completing Maternity Leave, the Club has an obligation to reintegrate the Player into their footballing activity (cf. article 6.11(e)), agree together with the Player on a postpartum plan and provide adequate ongoing medical support. The Player shall be entitled to receive their full remuneration following their return to football activity.
- (g) A Player shall be provided the opportunity to breastfeed an infant and/or express breast milk whilst providing sporting services to their Club. Clubs shall provide suitable facilities in accordance with Australian law or a collective bargaining agreement. The Player's reduced working hours for these reasons will be considered justified, without any reduction in salary.
- (h) Clubs shall at all times respect the needs of female Players related to their menstrual cycle and menstrual health. Subject to the production of a valid medical certificate issued by their personal gynaecologist or specialist medical practitioner, a female Player shall be entitled to be absent from training or matches whenever their menstrual health so requires. The Player shall be entitled to receive their full remuneration when exercising these rights related to menstrual health.

11 PROTECTION OF MINORS

- (a) A Professional Player Contract for a Minor Player must be:
 - (i) signed by the Minor and a parent or legal guardian of the Minor; and
 - (ii) for a term not exceeding three (3) years.
- (b) A Minor is not permitted to transfer from an International Club to a Club, other than in accordance with the FIFA Statutes (which prohibit a Minor from transferring unless that Minor has moved to Australia with their parents for reasons that are not linked to football) or with the express written approval of the FIFA Players' Status Chamber (such approval may only be sought by FA). The process for obtaining an ITC for a Minor, and the first registration of a Minor who is not an Australian national, is dealt with in article 4.
- (c) Any person subject to the FA Statutes, including a Club, an Official or a Football Agent, must not encourage or assist a Minor to transfer internationally other than in accordance with this article 11.

12 MID-SEASON MOVEMENT OF AN AMATEUR

- (a) An Amateur cannot be:
 - (i) transferred within Australia; or
 - (ii) loaned,
pursuant to a written agreement or for any consideration, such as a Transfer Fee or Loan Fee or other benefit. However, for the purposes of the National DTMS only, an Amateur may be the subject of a National Transfer.
- (b) If an Amateur no longer wishes to play for their Club, they may allow the registration to lapse. If the Amateur wishes to change Clubs during a Season, the Amateur must either:
 - (i) complete and sign the *Prescribed Form NRSTR08 (Cancellation of Amateur Registration)* and send a copy to the Club and the Competition Administrator; or
 - (ii) apply to de-register via the National Online Registration System, which will notify the Club and the Competition Administrator of the Player's intention to change Clubs.
- (c) If a Club no longer wishes an Amateur to play for the Club, that Club must either:
 - (i) complete and sign the *Prescribed Form NRSTR08 (Cancellation of Amateur Registration)* and send a copy to that Amateur and the Competition Administrator; or
 - (ii) apply to de-register the Player via the National Online Registration System, which will notify the Player and the Competition Administrator of the Club's intention to de-register the Player.
- (d) The de-registration of an Amateur from a Club is effective:
 - (i) immediately when the other party (i.e. Club or Player as the case may be) has confirmed the notification of cancellation; or
 - (ii) seven (7) days from the date the Player requested the de-registration in accordance with article 12(b)(i) or 12(b)(ii) (as the case may be) unless a Grievance has been initiated with the Competition Administrator in accordance with article 19.2 of these Regulations.
- (e) The Competition Rules by which the Club is bound may provide for a proportionate refund of registration fees to the Amateur in certain no fault circumstances on de-registration.
- (f) The Club or Member Federation (as applicable) must ensure that the correct de-registration date is entered in the National Online Registration System.
- (g) The registration of an Amateur with a new Club is effective from the date the Player is registered in the National Online Registration System and such registration has been accepted by the Club.

13 TRANSFERS AND LOANS OF PROFESSIONALS

13.1 Consents and Approvals

- (a) The transfer of a Professional is permissible only with the written agreement of the Professional, the Professional's current Club or International Club (as applicable), and the Club to which the Professional wishes to transfer.
- (b) The Loan of a Professional is permissible only with the written agreement of the Professional, the Professional's Parent Club, and the Loan Club. The Loan agreement must define the terms of the Loan, which may include, but is not limited to:
 - (i) particulars of the Parent Club, Loan Club and the Professional;
 - (ii) term / duration of the Loan;
 - (iii) financial conditions, including, but not limited to:
 - (A) the obligations on the Parent Club and/or Loan Club (as applicable) in respect of the payment of the Professional's remuneration or other related benefits; or
 - (B) a Loan Fee (if applicable);
 - (iv) the legally binding execution of or on behalf of the Parent Club, Loan Club, and the Professional; or
 - (v) the details of the Football Agent engaged by the Parent Club, Loan Club and/or the Professional (if applicable).
- (c) Where the transfer or Domestic Loan of a Professional involves:
 - (i) Clubs other than a National Leagues Club, such a transfer or Domestic Loan is only permissible with the prior written approval of the Competition Administrator of the Competition of the Professional's new Club or the Loan Club (as applicable); and
 - (ii) at least one (1) National Leagues Club, such a transfer or Domestic Loan is only permissible with the prior written approval of FA.

13.2 Rules for International Loans & Domestic Loans

- (a) The Loan of a Professional is only permissible when:
 - (i) a Professional is and must remain contracted by the Professional's Parent Club and Loan Club for the entire duration of the Loan. The player contract or Professional Player Contract (as applicable) between the Professional and the Loan Club must:
 - (A) otherwise comply with these Regulations; and
 - (B) acknowledge that the Professional is on Loan;

- (ii) the Professional and the Parent Club agree in writing prior to the commencement of the Loan that, to the extent permitted by the law, all contractual obligations between the Professional and the Professional's Parent Club will be suspended during the agreed duration of the Loan, unless otherwise agreed in writing between the Professional, the Parent Club, and the Loan Club (if applicable);
 - (iii) the minimum duration of a Loan is the time between two (2) Registration Periods and the maximum duration of a Loan is one (1) year;
 - (iv) the expiry date of a Loan must fall within one (1) of the Registration Periods set by the association of the Professional's Parent Club;
 - (v) once accepted, a Loan will continue in force until the expiry date of the period of the Loan (unless it is unilaterally terminated, terminated earlier by mutual agreement, or in accordance with the terms of the Loan agreement and/or these Regulations);
 - (vi) a Loan agreement may be extended, subject to the minimum and maximum durations outlined in article 13.2(a)(iii), but only with the written consent of the Professional, the Professional's Parent Club, and the Loan Club; and
 - (vii) a Loan Club that has accepted a Professional on a Loan basis is not permitted to transfer or Loan that Professional to a third club.
- (b) Notwithstanding article 13.2(a)(iii), a Loan agreement lodged prior to 1 July 2022 with a duration of more than one (1) year may continue until its expiry.
- (c) On termination or conclusion of a Loan the Professional's registration reverts immediately to the Parent Club from which the registration was temporarily transferred unless the termination occurs outside of a Registration Period applicable to the Parent Club, in which case:
 - (i) for a Loan agreement and playing contract or Professional Player Contract (as applicable) that is mutually terminated, the Professional's registration reverts upon commencement of the next Registration Period applicable to the Parent Club; or
 - (ii) for a playing contract or a Professional Player Contract (as applicable) between the Professional and the Loan Club that are terminated unilaterally for Just Cause, the Professional's registration reverts immediately to the Parent Club.
- (d) Where a playing contract or Professional Player Contract (as applicable) between the Professional and the Loan Club has been terminated unilaterally prior to the conclusion of the Loan agreement:
 - (i) the Professional has the right to return to the Parent Club;
 - (ii) the Professional must immediately inform the former club or Club (as applicable) of the premature termination of the playing contract or

Professional Player Contract (as applicable) and whether the Professional intends to return to the Parent Club; and

- (iii) if the Professional decides to return to the Parent Club, the Parent Club must reintegrate the Professional immediately. The Professional Player Contract which was suspended during the Loan shall be reinstated from the date of reintegration, and in particular, the Parent Club must remunerate the Professional.

13.3 Consequences of the Termination of a Loan for Just Cause

- (a) The terms of article 13.2(c)(ii) above are without prejudice to the operation of article 9 of these Regulations, including the right for the Parent Club to seek compensation resulting from its obligation to reintegrate the Professional sooner than contemplated.
- (b) The minimum compensation payable will be the amount the Loan Club was obligated to pay the Professional between the date of termination to the original completion date of the Loan agreement.

13.4 The Limitations on International Loans

- (a) The limitations on International Loans are set out in the below table:

International Loans (All Clubs)	
Out	In
A maximum of six (6) Professionals subject to an International Loan out at any given time in a Season	A maximum of six (6) Professionals subject to an International Loan in at any given time in a Season

- (b) The International Loan of a Professional will be exempt from the limitations in article 13.4(a) if:
 - (i) the International Loan occurs before the end of:
 - (A) in the case of a Club being the Parent Club, the Season; or
 - (B) in the case of an International Club being the Parent Club, the season,
 of the Parent Club in which the Professional turns twenty-one (21); and
 - (ii) the Professional is an International Club-Trained Player with the Parent Club.

- (c) The following restrictions apply to an International Loan irrespective of age or International Club-Trained status, whereby at any given time during a season, a Club may have a maximum of:
- (i) three (3) Professionals subject to an International Loan loaned out to a specific International Club; and
 - (ii) three (3) Professionals subject to an International Loan loaned in from an International Club.

13.5 The Limitations on Domestic Loans

- (a) The limitations on Domestic Loans are set out in the below table.

Domestic Loans (A-League Men Clubs)	
Out	In
A maximum of six (6) Professionals loaned out at any given time in a Season (two (2) Intra-League Loans + four (4) Domestic Loans to Clubs)	A maximum of six (6) Professionals loaned in at any given time in a Season (two (2) Intra-League Loans + four (4) Domestic Loans from Clubs)
Domestic Loans (A-League Women Clubs)	
Out	In
A maximum of eight (8) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan out to Clubs at any given time in a Season	A maximum of eight (8) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan in from Clubs at any given time in a Season
Domestic Loans (Men's Clubs other than A-League Men Clubs)	
Out	In
A maximum of six (6) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan out to Clubs at any given time in a Season	A maximum of six (6) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan in from Clubs at any given time in a Season
Domestic Loans (Women's Clubs other than A-League Women Clubs)	
Out	In
A maximum of eight (8) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan out to Clubs at any given time in a Season	A maximum of eight (8) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan in from Clubs at any given time in a Season

- (b) The Domestic Loan of a Professional will be exempt from the limitations in article 13.5(a) if:
 - (i) the Domestic Loan occurs before the end of the Season of the Parent Club in which the Professional turns twenty-one (21); and
 - (ii) the Professional is a Domestic Club-Trained Player with the Parent Club.
- (c) The following restrictions apply to a Domestic Loan irrespective of age or Domestic Club-Trained status:
 - (i) a Men's Club may have a maximum of:
 - (A) three (3) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan loaned out to a specific Club at any given time in a Season; and
 - (B) three (3) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan loaned in from a specific Club at any given time in a Season; and
 - (ii) a Women's Club may have a maximum of:
 - (A) four (4) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan loaned out to a specific Club; and
 - (B) four (4) Professionals subject to a Domestic Loan loaned in from a specific Club.

13.6 Application for the Transfer or Loan of Professional

- (a) For a Competition other than a National League, a Club must apply to the Competition Administrator for approval of the transfer or Loan of a Professional by lodging with such Competition Administrator:
 - (i) an original, duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form NRSTR04 (Application for Registration of Professional Player)*;
 - (ii) an original, duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form NRSTR06 (Transfer or Loan of Professional Player)*, or a duly executed transfer or Loan agreement (as applicable); and
 - (iii) an original Professional Player Contract.
- (b) For the National Leagues only, and subject to article 13.7, a National League Club must apply to FA for the transfer or Loan of a Professional by lodging with FA, and simultaneously providing to the Competition Administrator:
 - (i) a duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form NRSTR04A (Application for Registration of Professional Leagues Player)*;
 - (ii) an original, duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form NRSTR06 (Transfer or Loan of Professional Player)*, or a duly executed transfer or Loan agreement (as applicable); and
 - (iii) an original Professional Player Contract.

- (c) The application must be lodged during a Registration Period or outside of a Registration Period where the Professional would be permitted to register outside a Registration Period in accordance with these Regulations.

13.7 Additional National League Requirements

A National League Club must not transfer or Loan a Professional to another National League Club, unless:

- (a) the transfer or Loan involves at least one (1) Australian Championship Club; or
- (b) in the case of an A-League Men Club only, it is an Intra-League Loan.

13.8 International Transfer or Loan of Professional

If a Club intends to register a Professional who is transferring or subject to an International Loan from an International Club, the Club must:

- (a) comply with these Regulations, including the submission of any and all applicable Prescribed Forms; and
- (b) the FIFA Statutes, including, but not limited to, in respect of the mandatory use of FIFA TMS.

13.9 Overdue payments

- (a) Clubs are required to comply with their financial obligations towards other clubs in accordance with the terms stipulated in any transfer agreement. Any Club found to have delayed a due payment for more than 30 days without a contractual basis may be subject to a sanction in the form set out at articles 17.3(a), 17.3(b) and/or 17.3(c).
- (b) In order for a Club to be considered to be overdue in payment for the purpose of this article, the other club must have notified the Club of the default in writing and granted a deadline of at least ten (10) days for the Club to comply with its financial obligations.

13.10 Receipt of Prescribed Forms by FA

A Competition Administrator must provide FA with copies of received Prescribed Forms as soon as reasonably practicable, and in any event within seven (7) days, following a request by FA. If such forms are not received by FA within that time, FA has the right to annul or suspend the registration of any Player to which such forms relate.

14 TRAINING REWARDS AND TRANSFER FEES FOR PROFESSIONALS

14.1 International Training Compensation, Solidarity Contribution and Transfer Fees

- (a) The FIFA Statutes specify the regulations on:
 - (i) Training Compensation and Solidarity Contributions that apply to the international movement of Players; and

- (ii) the Solidarity Contribution payable for the domestic transfer of a Professional where at least one (1) International Club was involved in the training of the Professional Player.
- (b) Any Club that wishes to claim Training Compensation, a Solidarity Contribution, or a Transfer fee for a Player from an International Club must:
 - (i) in the case of a Club with current access to FIFA TMS, do so via FIFA TMS; or
 - (ii) in the case of any other Club, being a Club that does not currently have access to FIFA TMS, do so via FA.
- (c) The amount of Training Compensation payable to and from International Clubs is governed by the FIFA Statutes and is dependent on the specified FIFA category of the new Club or International Club. In summary, Training Compensation is distributed to:
 - (i) all the Player's junior Clubs (or Institutes) and/or International Clubs on a pro-rata basis in respect of the Player's first Professional Contract; and
 - (ii) the Player's immediately previous club in respect of the Player's second or subsequent Professional Contracts when being transferred internationally.
- (d) For the purposes of the FIFA Statutes, FA categorises the Clubs as follows:
 - (i) Category 3 – A-League Men Clubs; and
 - (ii) Category 4 – all other Clubs.

14.2 Domestic Training Compensation

- (a) In accordance with the FIFA Statutes which stipulate that a National Association will regulate the transfer of Players between clubs within that National Association, articles 14.3 to 14.4 set out the application of Training Compensation to the Australian domestic system (***Domestic Training Compensation***).
- (b) The provisions on Domestic Training Compensation take into account the Australian structure of Member Federations and National Leagues as well as the need to compensate Clubs that invest in the training and education of young Players.

14.3 Eligibility for Domestic Training Compensation

- (a) Domestic Training Compensation is due when:
 - (i) a Player is registered as a Professional for the first time; or
 - (ii) a Professional is transferred between Clubs and signs a subsequent Professional Player Contract,until the end of the Season of their 23rd birthday.

- (b) The obligation to pay Domestic Training Compensation under article 14.3(a)(ii) arises whether the registration of the Professional transfer takes place during or at the end of the Professional's contract.
- (c) Domestic Training Compensation is not due:
 - (i) if the former Club terminates the Professional's Professional Player Contract without Just Cause (without prejudice to the rights of the previous Clubs and/or clubs);
 - (ii) if the Professional's registration is transferred to, and the Professional subsequently registers with, a Category C Club (as described in article 14.4);
 - (iii) if a Professional, as a consequence of applying to register as an Amateur with a new Club, is required to reacquire Amateur status in accordance with article 5.3 on being transferred; or
 - (iv) for female Players.

14.4 Amount of Domestic Training Compensation

- (a) For the purposes of Domestic Training Compensation, FA categorises the Clubs as follows:
 - (i) Category A.1 – being A-League Men Clubs (i.e. Professionals, including A-League Youth Professionals);
 - (ii) Category A.2 – being A-League Men Clubs in their A-League Youth or National Premier Leagues capacity (i.e. Amateur A-League Youth Players);
 - (iii) Category B – being Clubs (other than an A-League Men Club) who are licensed and participating in the National Premier Leagues; and
 - (iv) Category C – all other Clubs.
- (b) The amount of Domestic Training Compensation payable by the Club to which a Professional is being registered is set out in the following table:

First Professional Contract			
<i>Category of last prior Club Player was registered as amateur with</i>	<i>Category of Club Player is signing first professional contract with</i>	<i>Amount of Domestic Training Compensation payable</i>	<i>Pro-rated to all of the Player's junior Clubs</i>
C	C	Nil	N/A
C	B	Nil	N/A
C	A.1	\$5,000	Yes
B	B	\$6,000	Yes

B	A.1	\$10,000	\$5,000 pro-rated and remaining \$5,000 to the last Club Player was registered with
A.2	A.1	\$10,000	Yes

Subsequent Professional Contracts When Transferred			
<i>Category of last prior Club Player was registered with</i>	<i>Category of Club Player is signing a subsequent professional contract with</i>	<i>Amount of Domestic Training Compensation payable</i>	<i>Pro-rated to all of the Player's junior Clubs</i>
C	C	Nil	N/A
C	B	Nil	N/A
C	A.1	Nil	N/A
B	C	Nil	N/A
B	B	\$6,000	No
B	A.1	\$6,000	No
A.1	C	Nil	N/A
A.1	B	Nil	N/A
A.1	A.1	\$6,000	No

- (c) No Domestic Training Compensation is payable to an Institute. The Domestic Training Compensation otherwise payable to Institutes under these Regulations will go to the last Club the Player was registered with prior to that Institute.
- (d) Except as specified in article 14.4(b) above, no Domestic Training Compensation is due or payable for a Player who transfers between Clubs within Australia.

14.5 Payment and Use of Training Compensation

- (a) When Training Compensation is payable and the transfer of a Professional involves an International Club, payment of the full amount, and distribution, of this Training Compensation must be in accordance with the FIFA Statutes.
- (b) When Domestic Training Compensation is payable, the new Club is responsible for paying the full amount to FA within 30 days of registration of the Player. FA will then distribute this Domestic Training Compensation to the Club(s) entitled to such training reward in accordance with these Regulations.
- (c) FA operates as a clearinghouse for the receipt and distribution of Domestic Training Compensation payments. For clarity, FA has no legal entitlement to, and will not,

allow Clubs to net-off Domestic Training Compensation liabilities against Domestic Training Compensation entitlements and vice versa.

- (d) The entitlement to Training Compensation is subject to the Player's registration with the Club and will be determined by reference to the Player Passport.
- (e) If an amount of Training Compensation is to be prorated, such amount will be distributed to any such eligible Club the Player has been registered with since he was 12 years of age on a pro rata basis according to the period of the Player's registration with each Club (which will be identified via the Player Passport).
- (f) If a Club which would otherwise be entitled to receive Training Compensation has ceased to participate in football and/or no longer exists due to, in particular, bankruptcy, dissolution or loss of affiliation, FA will be entitled to receive the Training Compensation. FA must use that Training Compensation for national youth football development programs.
- (g) Training Compensation must be used by a Club to further train and educate Players.

14.6 Transfer Fees and Loan Fees

- (a) An Amateur cannot be the subject of a Loan, and no Loan Fee may be requested, offered or paid in respect of an Amateur.
- (b) Subject to article 13.7, there are no transfers or Domestic Loans between National League Clubs and no Transfer Fee or Loan Fee (as applicable) can be requested, offered or paid between National League Clubs.

Transfer Fees

- (c) If a Club has a current Professional Player Contract with a Professional, the Club may request a Transfer Fee for the Professional. A Club cannot claim a Transfer Fee, if the Professional is out of contract, including if the Professional Player Contract has been validly terminated.
- (d) Where a transfer of a Professional involves the payment of a Transfer Fee and an International Club then:
 - (i) the payment of this Transfer Fee must be in accordance with the FIFA Statutes; and
 - (ii) the payment and distribution (where applicable) of the Solidarity Contribution must be in accordance with the FIFA Statutes and, where applicable, article 14.8; and
 - (iii) the details of the transfer, the Transfer Fee and the Solidarity Contribution (if applicable) must be recorded and disclosed in accordance with the FIFA Statutes, including in FIFA TMS.
- (e) Where a transfer of a Professional is between two (2) Clubs and involves the payment of a Transfer Fee, then:

- (i) the payment of this Transfer Fee must be made directly to FA within 30 days of the date of registration of that Professional; and
- (ii) FA must distribute the Transfer Fee as follows:
 - (A) any prescribed lump sum owing to the Player under their Professional Player Contract with the Club;
 - (B) a Solidarity Contribution of 5% in accordance with article 14.8; and
 - (C) the balance to the Club; and
- (iii) the Transfer Fee must be:
 - (A) recorded on the Prescribed Form and in any transfer agreement;
 - (B) only between the two (2) Clubs involved (and not any third party); and
 - (C) recorded in the financial accounts of the two (2) Clubs involved.

Loan Fees

- (f) Subject to articles 13.7 and 14.6(b), the Parent Club of a Professional who is the subject of a Domestic Loan may request a Loan Fee from that Professional's Loan Club.
- (g) Where a Loan of a Professional involves the payment of a Loan Fee and an International Club then:
 - (i) the payment of this Loan Fee must be in accordance with the FIFA Statutes; and
 - (ii) the payment and distribution (where applicable) of the Solidarity Contribution must be in accordance with the FIFA Statutes and, where applicable, article 14.8; and
 - (iii) the details of the Loan, the Loan Fee and the Solidarity Contribution (if applicable) must be recorded and disclosed in accordance with the FIFA Statutes, including in FIFA TMS.
- (h) Where a Loan of a Professional is between two (2) Clubs and involves the payment of a Loan Fee, then:
 - (i) the payment of this Loan Fee must be made directly to FA within 30 days of the date of registration of that Professional with their Loan Club; and
 - (ii) FA must distribute the Loan Fee as follows:
 - (A) any prescribed lump sum owing to the Player under their Professional Player Contract with the Club;
 - (B) a Solidarity Contribution of 5% in accordance with article 14.8; and
 - (C) the balance to the Club; and
 - (iii) the Loan Fee must be:

- (A) recorded on the Prescribed Form and in any loan agreement;
- (B) only between the two (2) Clubs involved (and not any third party);
and
- (C) recorded in the financial accounts of the two (2) Clubs involved.

14.7 FA Rights and Obligations

- (a) Where FA receives a Transfer Fee in accordance with article 14.6, it must be paid into a separate account established and administered by FA for the purposes of this article 14. If a Club receives a Transfer Fee direct from a Club, that Club must immediately forward the full gross amount to FA.
- (b) FA may delegate any of its roles and responsibilities under this article 14 to Member Federations.

14.8 Solidarity Contribution

- (a) If a Professional is transferred from a Club either permanently or on a Loan basis:
 - (i) to an International Club; or
 - (ii) to a Club and at least one (1) International Club was involved in the Professional's training and football education,

before the expiry of their Professional Player Contract, then 5% of any Transfer Fee, Loan Fee, or any other compensation paid within the scope of this transfer or Loan, not including Training Compensation, paid to the Club must be deducted from the total amount of such total compensation and distributed by FA as a Solidarity Contribution to the Clubs and/or International Clubs involved in that Professional's training and football education between the Seasons of their 12th and 23rd birthdays.
- (b) The Solidarity Contribution must be paid to the Clubs and/or International Clubs with which the Professional has been registered as follows:
 - (i) 5% (or .25% of the compensation) for each Season of the 12th to the 15th birthday; and
 - (ii) 10% (or .5% of the compensation) for each Season of the 16th to the 23rd birthday.
- (c) Where the Professional is:
 - (i) transferred to a new Club; or
 - (ii) loaned to a Loan Club (as applicable),

the Club or Loan Club (as applicable) must pay FA the Solidarity Contribution within 30 days of registration of the Professional for distribution to the relevant Clubs and/or International Clubs.
- (d) If a Club which would otherwise be entitled to receive a Solidarity Contribution has ceased to participate in football and/or no longer exists due to, in particular,

bankruptcy, dissolution or loss of affiliation, FA will be entitled to receive the Solidarity Contribution. FA must use that Solidarity Contribution for national youth football development programs.

- (e) The Solidarity Contribution paid to a Club must only be used by the Club to further train and educate players.

14.9 Third Party Ownership of Players' Economic Rights

In accordance with the FIFA Statutes, a Club or Player must not enter into an agreement with a Third Party whereby a Third Party is being entitled to participate, either in full or in part, in compensation payable in relation to the future transfer of a Player from one club to another, or is being assigned any rights in relation to a future transfer or transfer compensation.

14.10 Third Party Influence on Clubs

In accordance with the FIFA Statutes, a Club must not enter into a contract or any other form of agreement that would enable the counter Club(s) or counter International Club(s) (as applicable), and vice versa, or any Third Party to acquire the ability to influence in employment and transfer-related matters its independence, its policies or the performance of its teams.

14.11 No Other Payments

No payments may be offered, made or received relating to the movement of a Player other than in accordance with this article 14.

14.12 No Application to Futsal

The provisions on Training Compensation and the Solidarity Contribution do not apply to the transfer of Players to and from futsal Clubs.

15 RELEASE OF PLAYERS

15.1 National Teams

- (a) A Club is obliged to release its Players for representative teams of the country for which the player is eligible to play on the basis of nationality in accordance with the FIFA Statutes.
- (b) If a Player is selected by FA to compete for a National Team, the Player must promptly report for, and punctually attend, all national Matches, camps, training sessions, media conferences, promotional activities or other functions.
- (c) If a Player is unable to comply with FA's request:
 - (i) due to injury or illness, the Player must if requested by FA, undergo a medical examination by FA's Medical Advisor; and

- (ii) for any reason, the Player must not, unless otherwise agreed by FA (such agreement to be granted or withheld in FA's sole and absolute discretion), play for their Club during the period prescribed by the FIFA Statutes.
- (d) Competition regulations for the FIFA Club World Cup 2025™ may establish further exceptions to the principle set out in article 15.1(a) that a Club is obliged to release its Players for representative teams of the country for which the player is eligible to play on the basis of nationality.

15.2 Member Federation Representative Teams

- (a) A Member Federation may select a Player for that Member Federation's Representative Team:
 - (i) if that Player is registered with a Club or Institute located within that Member Federation's jurisdiction; or
 - (ii) if it satisfies FA that special circumstances exist.
- (b) A Member Federation must give a Player and that Player's Club at least seven (7) days' written notice before the first Match in which the Player is required to participate.
- (c) Subject to the following, a Player is obliged to respond affirmatively when called up by their Member Federation for a National Championships or for an FA approved Match (but not including a Member Federation friendly). The Player's Club is also obliged to release the Player for such Matches. A Player may only refuse to comply with the request due to:
 - (i) injury or illness;
 - (ii) work or education commitments;
 - (iii) family or personal commitments;
 - (iv) affordability constraints; or
 - (v) any other reasonable justification.
- (d) If a Player refuses to play without reasonable justification, that Player must not play for their Club during the period for which the Player should have been released.
- (e) A Club must co-operate with its Member Federation in relation to the release of Players for official Member Federation Representative Team training, provided that reasonable notice of training times has been given.

15.3 Financial Provisions and Insurance

- (a) A Club releasing a Player in accordance with this article 15 is not entitled to financial compensation, but it is not responsible for any costs incurred as a result of the call up, including travel.
- (b) The Member Federation is responsible for ensuring that its Players are covered by appropriate insurance while on Representative Team duty.

15.4 FA Assistance

A Member Federation may request FA's assistance to obtain the release of a Player to that Member Federation if:

- (a) the Club refuses to release the Player; and
- (b) the matter is referred to FA at least five (5) days before the Match for which the Player is required.

16 OFFICIALS

16.1 Match Officials

- (a) A Match Official must register with FA by either:
 - (i) lodging an original, duly completed and signed *Prescribed Form 10 (Application for Registration as Match Official)*, signed by the Match Official (or the Match Official's parent or guardian if that Match Official is a Minor); or
 - (ii) self-registering via the National Online Registration System, and the referee branch or Member Federation subsequently accepts the registration.
- (b) Notwithstanding article 16.1(a), FA may:
 - (i) refuse the application from a Match Official; or
 - (ii) rescind the registration of a Match Official,in its sole and absolute discretion, including in circumstances where the registration of such a Match Official may not be in the best interests of the game. A decision by FA to refuse an application in accordance with this article 16, is final and may not be reviewed or appealed.
- (c) By the act of registration, a Match Official agrees to abide by the FA Statutes.
- (d) Once registered, a Match Official must then successfully complete the accreditation process as prescribed by FA from time to time.
- (e) Subject to article 16.1(f), a Match Official must be accredited by FA before they can officiate in a Match.
- (f) Where there are insufficient Match Officials available, Competition Rules may provide an exemption allowing non-accredited persons to referee in specified circumstances provided that the person officiating has a good understanding of the Laws of the Game and is of suitable fitness and health.

16.2 Club and Team Officials

- (a) All Club Officials and Team Officials (including volunteers) must register with FA via the National Online Registration System in the manner prescribed by FA from time to time.

- (b) FA may:
 - (i) refuse the application from a Club Official or Team Official; or
 - (ii) rescind the registration of a Club Official or Team Official,in its sole and absolute discretion, including in circumstances where the registration of such a Club Official or Team Official may not be in the best interests of the game. A decision by FA to refuse an application in accordance with this article 16, is final and may not be reviewed or appealed.
- (c) By the act of registration, Club Officials and Team Officials agree to abide by the FA Statutes.
- (d) Clubs are responsible for ensuring that their Club Officials and Team Officials are registered with FA.
- (e) For any Club participating in a Competition where FA is the Competition Administrator, Club Officials and Team Officials must complete any registration process prescribed by FA in the relevant Competition Rules.

17 DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

17.1 Compliance and Enforcement

- (a) Each Club, Player, Official and Football Agent must, in meeting the stated objectives of these Regulations, strictly comply with their terms and honour their spirit and intent. FA and Member Federations may impose disciplinary sanctions to enforce and encourage compliance with these Regulations.
- (b) The scope of disciplinary sanctions is as specified in the Constitution. This article 17 sets out the specific disciplinary sanctions that may apply for a breach of these Regulations.
- (c) FA or a Member Federation may only enforce the terms of these Regulations and invoke the sanctions if it has given the Player, Club, Football Agent, or Accredited coach alleged to have infringed these Regulations:
 - (i) reasonable details of the alleged infringement/s;
 - (ii) notice of the possible sanctions; and
 - (iii) the opportunity to be heard in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction.

17.2 Sanction Against a Member Federation

If a Member Federation seriously or persistently breaches these Regulations (including in relation to the registration process), FA may withdraw that Member Federation's mandate and take over the jurisdiction of that Member Federation as specified in article 2.4.

17.3 Sanctions Against an Entity

The following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against an entity (including a Member Federation, District Association, Competition Administrator or Club):

- (a) a reprimand;
- (b) a fine;
- (c) placement of the entity on a bond;
- (d) a deduction or loss of competition points;
- (e) ban on the registration or transfer of any Players for a specified period of time;
- (f) annulment of the registration of a Player;
- (g) suspension from participation in a Match or Matches;
- (h) exclusion, suspension or expulsion from a Competition; or
- (i) such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes or the FA Statutes.

17.4 Sanctions Against an Individual

The following disciplinary sanctions may be imposed against an individual (including a Player, Official or Football Agent):

- (a) a reprimand;
- (b) a fine;
- (c) placement of the individual on a bond;
- (d) ban on the registration of Player with any Club for a specified period of time;
- (e) annulment of the registration of a Player;
- (f) suspension from participation in a Match or Matches;
- (g) suspension or expulsion from a Competition;
- (h) suspension or cancellation of a licence or accreditation, Match Official or coaching accreditation;
- (i) termination of registration or playing contract;
- (j) ban on taking part in any football related activity; or
- (k) such other disciplinary sanctions or measures as is appropriate in all the circumstances, including as prescribed in the FIFA Statutes or the FA Statutes.

17.5 Disciplinary Suspensions

- (a) A suspension imposed in terms of matches on a Player or Official participating in:
 - (i) eleven-a-side football only affects that Player's or Official's participation for their eleven-a-side football Club; or

- (ii) futsal only affects that Player's or Official's participation for their futsal club.
- (b) A suspension imposed in terms of time (such as months or days) affects a Player's or Official's participation in all forms of the game.
- (c) Any disciplinary suspension imposed on a Player or Official prior to registration with a new Club must be enforced and applied by the new Club with which the Player or Official becomes registered.

17.6 Embargo

Without limiting the scope of the FIFA Statutes, FA or a Member Federation (as the case requires) may impose an embargo preventing a Club from registering any Player if that Club:

- (a) is over 30 days in arrears of amounts owing to FA or the Member Federation, including any fees, levies or fines; or
- (b) fails to comply with any Determinations arising from the Grievance Procedure.

17.7 False or Misleading Information

It is an offence to provide information on a Prescribed Form or other document (including on the National Online Registration System and/or National DTMS) that is false or misleading, including in relation to disciplinary suspensions and financial status.

18 FA RIGHTS OF INTERVENTION AND AUDIT

18.1 Right to Be Heard

- (a) In accordance with the FA Statutes, FA reserves the right to be heard and to make submissions in a Member Federation investigation or hearing in relation to a Grievance.
- (b) If FA wishes to exercise its right to be heard it will serve written notice on the Member Federation and that Member Federation will inform FA of the relevant timeframes and procedures that apply to the consideration of the Grievance. Any determination of a Grievance heard in the absence of FA's submissions, will be void and of no effect.

18.2 Right of Intervention

- (a) In accordance with the FA Statutes, FA reserves the right to intervene in a Competition Administrator investigation or hearing of a Grievance if it thinks, in its absolute discretion, that the matter has the potential to adversely affect FA, the FA Statutes or football generally.
- (b) If FA wishes to exercise its right of intervention it will serve written notice on the Competition Administrator and, from the date of that notice, take over the investigation and determination of the Grievance.
- (c) On receipt of the intervention notice, the Competition Administrator must:

- (i) promptly provide FA with any relevant documents, Prescribed Forms, information or evidence that may assist FA in investigating or determining the Grievance; and
 - (ii) co-operate with FA in the investigation or enforcement of the Grievance.
- (d) Any decision of FA will be binding on the Competition Administrator and the parties to the Grievance.

18.3 Right of Audit and Inspection

- (a) FA or a Member Federation may carry out audits and random checks to ensure compliance with these Regulations.
- (b) Each entity subject to these Regulations must:
 - (i) keep adequate records, documents and financial accounts in sufficient detail to enable its compliance with these Regulations to be verified (**Records**);
 - (ii) permit FA or a Member Federation to have full and free access to any Records for the purpose of verifying compliance with these Regulations;
 - (iii) produce copies of Records and any other reports requested by FA or a Member Federation from time to time; and
 - (iv) ensure a representative meets with FA or a Member Federation in person to answer any query in relation to compliance and verification issues in relation to these Regulations.
- (c) FA or a Member Federation (or their authorised representatives) may enter the entity's premises during regular business hours by giving reasonable notice to that entity (by phone, mail or email), to do any of the following:
 - (i) examine and copy Records;
 - (ii) conduct an audit; and
 - (iii) ascertain the entity's compliance with its obligations under these Regulations.
- (d) Each individual (including a Player, Official or Football Agent) subject to these Regulations must if requested:
 - (i) permit FA to have full and free access to Taxation Information, Records, documents and financial accounts; and
 - (ii) attend (in person or by phone) to answer any queries in relation to compliance and verification issues.

18.4 Confidentiality Obligations

Any Records or confidential information disclosed to FA or a Member Federation under this article 18 must be kept confidential and used only for the purpose of ensuring compliance with these Regulations. The Records and confidential information cannot be disclosed by FA

or a Member Federation to any third party without the prior written consent of the party claiming confidentiality in such Records or information.

19 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

19.1 No Recourse to Courts of Law

Each Member must submit exclusively to the jurisdiction of the Grievance Procedure and must agree that it will not attempt to resolve any Grievance in a court of law.

19.2 Right of Appeal

- (a) If a party disputes another party's purported action taken under these Regulations, that party must give notice in accordance with the Grievance Procedure:
 - (i) within seven (7) days after the date on which the purported action was taken; and
 - (ii) specifying the relevant facts and the reason for the dispute.
- (b) Any purported action taken under these Regulations will not take effect until the process available under the Grievance Procedure has been terminated or exhausted.

20 GENERAL PROVISIONS

20.1 Deemed Engagement in Conduct or Behaviour

A person will be deemed to have engaged in conduct or behaviour:

- (a) regardless of whether or not it was committed deliberately or negligently;
- (b) if that person has attempted, threatened, or encouraged others, to engage in that conduct or behaviour; or
- (c) where that person knowingly takes part in the conduct or behaviour.

20.2 Waiver of Enforcement

FA may choose to not enforce a term of these Regulations in some cases in its absolute discretion without affecting its right to enforce that term in other cases.

20.3 Variation and Review of Regulations

- (a) FA may vary these Regulations from time to time or make such further regulations as it deems fit, including to implement changes to the FIFA Statutes, AFC Statutes or FA Statutes.
- (b) FA must review these Regulations regularly to ensure they continue to meet the stated objectives in article 2. FA will not make any material amendments to these Regulations without first consulting with representatives of relevant Members.

20.4 Regulations and Inconsistency

If there is any inconsistency between a term of these Regulations and a term of any Competition Rules or Member Federation regulation, the term of these Regulations will govern to the extent of that inconsistency and the inconsistent term is void and of no effect.

20.5 FA May Issue Guidelines

FA may issue guidelines from time to time to assist in the interpretation of these Regulations. Once issued, those guidelines are binding on each Member.

20.6 Notice Provision

- (a) Any notice to be provided under these Regulations must be in writing and in English.
- (b) A notice will be taken to have been received:
 - (i) if delivered by hand to the recipient's address, on the date of delivery, as long as delivery is acknowledged in writing by the recipient;
 - (ii) if sent by post, three (3) working days after the posting; and
 - (iii) if sent by email on a working day at the recipient's, on the date of transmission, or if sent on a non-working day at the recipient's, on the next working day (in both cases as long as the sender has a record of successful transmission).
- (c) Unless otherwise specified, all notices must be received by close of business on a working day at the recipient.

21 ENFORCEMENT AND TRANSITIONAL MEASURES

- (a) These Regulations come into force from 28 August 2025 and operate until they are amended or replaced.
- (b) The Regulations have been approved by the FA Board of Directors. As soon as reasonably practicable, Competition Administrators must draft or amend their regulations and Competition Rules to ensure they comply with these Regulations and provide them to FA for prior written approval.

SCHEDULE 1 NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUES PLAYER ROSTER RULES

1. NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUES

1.1 Definitions

In this Schedule 1:

National Premier Leagues Player Roster means the Player Roster for a National Premier Leagues Club's first grade team maintained in accordance with this Schedule 1.

National Premier Leagues Season means the period of time FA prescribes for the conduct of the National Premier Leagues within any 12-month period as set out in the Domestic Match Calendar.

Youth Australian Player means any Player who is:

- (a) a citizen of Australia;
- (b) the holder of a refugee visa, humanitarian visa or protection visa issued by the Australian government;
- (c) prima facie eligible for Australian citizenship, which requires the Player to have:
 - (i) made a formal application for Australian citizenship; and
 - (ii) provided to FA confirmation from a legal practitioner that their application for citizenship will, on balance be:
 - (A) successful; and
 - (B) granted within six (6) months of the Player's registration with the Club; or
- (d) having satisfied FA of their intention to represent the National Teams if selected, a Permanent Resident or child of a Permanent Resident.

1.2 National Premier Leagues Player Rosters

- (a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Regulations, Schedule 1 applies only to the top-tier men's Competition in each Member Federation, except for Football Northern Territory to which it does not apply at all. For the avoidance of doubt, Member Federations may require Clubs participating in other Member Federation Competitions to maintain a Player Roster as a condition of eligibility to participate in those Competitions, provided such a requirement complies with these Regulations and, in particular, article 7.1.
- (b) During a National Premier Leagues Season, a Club that participates in the National Premier Leagues must at all times maintain a National Premier Leagues Player Roster in accordance with this Schedule 1 and the National Premier Leagues Player Roster Principles.

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- (c) A Club's National Premier Leagues Player Roster must comply with these Regulations, the National Premier Leagues Player Roster Principles and the requirements of the relevant Competition Rules (if any).
 - (d) In the case of an A-Leagues Club participating in the National Premier Leagues, an A-Leagues Club's National Premier Leagues Player Roster must only include Youth Australian Players who are no older than 23 years of age in the year in which the National Premier Leagues is staged.
 - (e) Where an A-Leagues Club participates in the National Premier Leagues, the applicable Competition Rules must:
 - (i) permit that A-Leagues Club to include Players on that A-Leagues Club's National Premier Leagues Player Roster who turn no older than 23 years of age in the year in which the National Premier Leagues is staged; and
 - (ii) not include further age restrictions in addition to item 1.2(e)(i) above which limit the inclusion of Players on an A-Leagues Club's National Premier Leagues Player Roster, or the eligibility of such Players to participate in Matches in the National Premier Leagues for that A-Leagues Club.

SCHEDULE 2 AUSTRALIA CUP PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND ROSTER RULES

1. AUSTRALIA CUP

1.1 Definitions

In this Schedule 2:

Australia Cup means the national club competition staged by, or under the control of, FA between eligible Clubs, and that is currently known as the Australia Cup (or such other name as otherwise notified by FA from time to time).

Australia Cup Competition Rules mean the rules and regulations governing the administration and conduct of the Australia Cup as promulgated by FA from time to time.

1.2 Australia Cup Player Rosters

- (a) A Club must have a Player Roster for that Club's participation in the Australia Cup.
- (b) A Club participating in the Australia Cup must have a Player Roster that complies with the requirements of the Australia Cup Competition Rules.

SCHEDULE 3 FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA FOOTBALL AGENT ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

1. FOOTBALL AGENT DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 Definitions

In this Schedule 3:

Approval Date has the meaning prescribed in item 1.6(a) of this Schedule 3.

Representation Agreement means a written agreement for the purpose of establishing a legal relationship to provide Football Agent Services.

1.2 Football Agents

- (a) In accordance with the FIFA Football Agent Regulations, articles 11-14 and 16-21 of the FIFA Football Regulations form part of these Regulations.
- (b) A Client must only engage a Football Agent to provide Football Agent Services:
 - (i) in accordance with article 4.2(a)(i), licensed by FIFA as a Football Agent in accordance with the FIFA Football Regulations; and
 - (ii) in accordance with article 4.2(a)(ii), registered with Football Australia as a Football Agent.
- (c) A Client must use all reasonable endeavours to verify that the Football Agent complies with item 1.2(b) above prior to engaging that Football Agent to provide Football Agent Services in respect of a Transaction.

1.3 Football Agent Registration

- (a) To perform Football Agent Services in accordance with these Regulations, a Football Agent must be registered with Football Australia.
- (b) For the purposes of item 1.3(a) above, to be registered with Football Australia, a Football Agent must:
 - (i) be licensed by FIFA as a Football Agent in accordance with the FIFA Football Agent Regulations;
 - (ii) have completed and validly lodged with Football Australia the Football Agent Registration Form in the manner and form as promulgated by Football Australia from time to time;
 - (iii) hold and lodge with Football Australia in the manner and form prescribed by Football Australia from time to time a validated working with children check, or the jurisdictional equivalent;
 - (iv) comply and maintain compliance with the:

- (A) eligibility requirements for Football Agents specified in the FIFA Football Agents as amended by FIFA from time to time;
 - (B) any further requirements specified by Football Australia for the protection and safety of participants, or to mitigate or protect against any conduct by a Football Agent that may or is damaging or prejudicial to the interests of Football Australia or football generally; and
 - (v) otherwise comply with any further reasonable eligibility requirements as specified and notified by Football Australia from time to time.
- (c) Where there is a change in the circumstances relating to the registration or ongoing eligibility of a Football Agent, and that Football Agent is or should have reasonably been aware, that Football Agent must notify Football Australia of such a change as soon as is practical and no later than seven (7) days after becoming, or should reasonably have become, aware of such change.
- (d) A failure to comply with item 1.3(c) above, may, in accordance with these Regulations, effect the eligibility of the Football Agent to remain registered with Football Australia.

1.4 Dispute Resolution

- (a) Where a dispute arises between the parties in respect of a Transaction, the Grievance Procedure will apply.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, where a dispute arises between the parties in relation to a transaction that has an International Dimension, the FIFA Football Regulations will apply.

1.5 Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary Sanctions

- (a) Subject to article 17.1, Football Australia may impose sanctions against a Football Agent.
- (b) Football Australia may only enforce the terms of these Regulations and invoke the sanctions if it has given the Football Agent alleged to have infringed these Regulations:
 - (i) reasonable details of the alleged infringement/s;
 - (ii) notice of the possible sanctions; and
 - (iii) the opportunity to be heard in relation to the issues of infringement and sanction.

Appeals

- (c) If a Football Agent disputes a:
 - (i) decision made by Football Australia; or
 - (ii) sanction imposed by Football Australia,as a result of a finding by Football Australia that the Football Agent has breached these Regulations, that Football Agent may appeal in accordance with the Judicial Bodies By-Law, provided that any such application is made in writing within seven (7) business days of the notice of sanction.

1.6 Transitional Provisions

- (a) Representation Agreements that expire on or after 1 October 2023 and in force on 23 March 2023 (***Approval Date***), notwithstanding those that do not meet the minimum requirements provided in FIFA Football Agent Regulations article 12 paragraph 7, shall remain valid (but not be extended) until they expire.
- (b) Any new Representation Agreements or renewals of existing Representation Agreements concluded after the Approval Date must be in compliance with these Regulations as from 1 October 2023.
- (c) A person that has executed any such Representation Agreement must obtain a licence pursuant to the FIFA Football Agent Regulations to continue providing Football Agent Services as from 1 October 2023.

SCHEDULE 4 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYER ROSTER RULES

1. AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

1.1 Definitions

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Regulations, in this Schedule 4:

AFC Visa Player means any Player who is not an Australian Player and who holds a citizenship from an AFC National Association.

Australian Championship Competition Regulations mean the competition regulations for the Australian Championship as promulgated by FA from time to time and each of its schedules, including the Competition Policies and Procedures (as defined in the Australian Championship Competition Regulations), and which may contain rules for regulating player eligibility, registration, contracting, payments, transfers and rosters.

Australian Championship Match Day Team Sheet means the list of minimum sixteen (16) and up to eighteen (18) Australian Championship Players who will participate in a specific Australian Championship fixture as a starter or as a potential substitute.

Australian Championship Player means any person who has been, is, or is eligible to be, registered by FA with a Club to play in the Australian Championship in accordance with the Australian Championship Competition Regulations.

Australian Championship Player Roster means the Player Roster for an Australian Championship Club's team maintained in accordance with this Schedule 4 and with the Australian Championship Competition Regulations.

Australian Championship Season means the period of time FA prescribes for the conduct of the Australian Championship within any 12-month period as set out in the Domestic Match Calendar.

Australian Player means any Player who is:

- (a) a citizen of Australia; or
- (b) a permanent resident of Australia (where permanent resident means a person residing in Australia on a "permanent" visa class issued by the Australian Government, evidenced by either the person's Visa Grant Notice or as a listed entitlement on the person's online Visa Entitlement Verification); or
- (c) the holder of a refugee visa, humanitarian visa or protection visa issued by the Australian government.

Homegrown Player means a Player, who between the ages of 12 – 21, was registered for a period of three (3) entire seasons or 36 months in total (noting such periods are aggregate and not required to be continuous) with their Club.

OFC Visa Player means any Player who is not an Australian Player and who holds a citizenship from an OFC National Association.

U20 Youth Player means a Player who is 20 years of age or younger as at 31 December of the applicable Australian Championship Season.

U23 Youth Player means a Player who is 23 years of age or younger as at 31 December of the applicable Australian Championship Season.

1.2 Australian Championship Player Rosters

- (a) During the Australian Championship Season, a Club that participates in the Australian Championship must at all times maintain an Australian Championship Player Roster in accordance with this Schedule 4.
- (b) A Club's Australian Championship Player Roster must comply with these Regulations and the requirements of the relevant Competition Rules (if any).
- (c) At all times during an Australian Championship Season, a Club's Australian Championship Player Roster:
 - (i) must include a minimum of 20 Australian Championship Players;
 - (ii) must not exceed the maximum of 23 Australian Championship Players;
 - (iii) must include a minimum of two (2) goalkeepers (note item 1.2(c)(vii) below);
 - (iv) must include a minimum of three (3) Homegrown Players at any one time;
 - (v) must include a minimum of five (5) U23 Youth Players of which at least two (2) must be U20 Youth Players. Age eligible substitute goalkeepers and Visa Players will not to be counted toward meeting these minimum requirements;
 - (vi) may include a maximum of two (2) outfield Visa Players, comprising players classified as AFC Visa Players, OFC Visa Players, or Visa Players, in addition to one (1) further outfield Visa Player who must be either an AFC Visa Player or an OFC Visa Player;
 - (vii) must not include any goalkeepers who are not classified as Australian Players, unless the goalkeeper is party to a pre-existing multi-year Professional Player Contract – executed and in effect prior to 19 September 2024 – with the Club for the 2026 season; and
 - (viii) must be utilised to include minimum of sixteen (16) Australian Championship Players and a maximum of eighteen (18) Australian Championship Players on the Club's Australian Championship Match Day Team Sheet.
- (d) In addition to the requirements in item 1.2(c) above, a Australian Championship Match Day Team Sheet must include a minimum of three (3) U23 Youth Players, of which at least one (1) must be an U20 Youth Player.