

TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1560

Zurich, 21 October 2016

SG/sza

The Best FIFA Football Awards

Dear General Secretary,

The inaugural edition of "The Best FIFA Football Awards" (formerly the FIFA Ballon d'Or) will be staged in Zurich on 9 January 2017 and will recognise football's top performers of 2016.

The player voted best in men's football will receive "The Best FIFA Men's Player" Award, while the best female player will be presented with "The Best FIFA Women's Player" Trophy. Awards for men's and women's coaches of the year will also be presented.

In order to have equal representation in the voting process, we kindly ask you to ensure the participation of your member association in the voting for The Best FIFA Football Awards 2016.

Voting will commence in the week beginning 31 October 2016 and will conclude on 18 November 2016 at the latest. All votes must be cast on time in order to be taken into consideration – any votes received after 18 November **will not** be included or count towards the final results. For your convenience, voting will again be conducted **online** for all member associations. All member associations will receive an e-mail with the link to access the voting platform on the day the voting opens.

Please be aware that votes will not be formally recognised until the voting form has been **signed and completed** by the coaches and captains of your men's and women's national teams, and **sent back to FIFA**. It should also be noted that all votes, as well as abstentions, will be made public following The Best FIFA Football Awards show. Your cooperation in ensuring the coaches and captains of your association meet this deadline is greatly appreciated.

Information on the voting process:

- ✓ The Football Committee will compile a shortlist of 23 male players for The Best FIFA Men's Player, ten men's football coaches for The Best FIFA Men's Coach.
 - ✓ The Committee for Women's Football and the FIFA Women's World Cup™ will select a shortlist of ten female players for The Best FIFA Women's Player and ten women's football coaches for The Best FIFA Women's Coach.
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- Coaches and captains choose their three personal favourites from each of the lists supplied.
 - The selection criteria for the (men's and women's) players of the year are: sporting performance, as well as general conduct on and off the pitch from 20 November 2015 to 18 November 2016.
 - The selection criteria for the coaches of the year are: performance and general behaviour of their teams on and off the pitch from 20 November 2015 to 18 November 2016.
 - Media representatives (different for men's and women's football) will also take part in the vote, with their votes counting for one third of the final result. The votes from national team coaches and captains will also count for one third each.

Thank you very much for your valuable cooperation in making the FIFA Football Awards a major success.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the FIFA Special Events Management Department at FIFAFootballAwards@fifa.org

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

cc: - FIFA Council
 - Confederations