

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1672

Zurich, 14 May 2019

EMS/dpn

Participation of clubs in the benefits of the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to inform you of the latest developments in connection with the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™.

FIFA recognises the importance of club football in developing the women's game and improving its professionalisation. Clubs offering high-performance environments for their female players should be rewarded for providing professional football pathways. With this in mind, financial rewards will be paid to member associations to pass on to their affiliated clubs that have helped contribute to the successful staging of this competition (the "FIFA Women's World Cup Club Benefits Programme").

For the first edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup Club Benefits Programme, the total amount of USD 8.48 million will be paid as rewards to clubs. (NB: these rewards will be gross amounts, i.e. prior to any taxes and deductions.) These amounts are part of the overall financial contribution of USD 50 million for the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™, which was approved by the FIFA Council on 26 October 2018.

1. Principles of FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ Club Benefits Programme distribution model

The Club Benefits Programme 2019 will be based on the principle of rewarding clubs for providing players with a professional football pathway. The amounts will therefore be split between:

- a) The clubs with which the players representing the participating member associations at the final tournament are currently registered (cf. guidelines for more details).
- b) The clubs that have trained these players between the ages of 12 to 22, i.e. "the formative period" (cf. guidelines for more details).

2. Payment procedure

The detailed procedure for the payments to be made to the relevant clubs is explained in the attached documents:

- Club Benefits Programme 2019 Guidelines

- Club Application Form

In order to be eligible to receive a share of the benefits of the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™, **clubs must return the correctly completed and duly signed Club Application Form to FIFA by email at clubbenefits2019@fifa.org** (sending a copy to the member association they are affiliated to) by **10 July 2019 at the latest**. Please note that, by signing the Club Application Form, the club agrees to the principle that FIFA's decision in regard to the calculation of amounts due to the club is final and binding.

Participating member associations are requested to forward the enclosed Club Application Form to:

- Clubs with which their players participating in the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ are currently registered.

If the player is currently registered at a club outside your member association, FIFA will ensure the club concerned receives the Club Application Form.

- Clubs where the players have been trained during their formative years (ages 12 to 22).

In the case where a player from the participating member associations spent formative years outside your member association, we kindly ask you to state this on the Player Club History Form, at which point FIFA will notify the member association concerned, who will then inform the affiliated club(s) concerned.

3. Player Club History Form

Participating member associations of the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ are kindly requested to:

- Submit their Player Club History Form to FIFA (cf. attachment), which must be completed with training club history data for players named in the official 23-player squad, **by 1 June 2019**.

We thank you for your kind attention to the above. Should you have any queries regarding the FIFA Women's World Cup Club Benefits Programme, please contact clubbenefits2019@fifa.org.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

Enclosures: Club Benefits Programme 2019 Guidelines, Club Application Form, Player Club History Form

Cc: FIFA Council, confederations

FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™

Club Benefits Programme

Guidelines

FIFA®

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1. Background and key principles

The first edition of the FIFA Women's World Cup Club Benefits Programme ("the Programme") is an adapted version of the men's FIFA World Cup Club Benefits Programme, which was designed to recognise the contribution football clubs make to the success of staging the FIFA World Cup™.

Under the men's FIFA World Cup Club Benefits Programme, a share of the benefits from the successful hosting of a FIFA World Cup™ is distributed via the member associations (MAs) to the clubs of the players who participate in the final tournament. Given that the professional women's football landscape is different to that of the men's game, the design of the Programme is equally different. Strengthening elite pathway systems and high-performance environments for female players at a global level has been recognised as a priority across all stakeholders. FIFA therefore decided to ensure that the Programme reflects the principle of rewarding clubs that have contributed to the pathway of players that participate in the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™.

In designing the distribution model, the points below were therefore taken into consideration:

- Recognising the importance of professional clubs in creating a high-performance environment for the best players in the world.
- The importance of ensuring funding is not concentrated in one region, but globally.
- Incentivising clubs worldwide to create high-performance environments for talented girls in their formative years.

The Club Benefits Programme for the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ can therefore be considered as a professional pathway reward for clubs. Its basic features are as follows:

- For this first edition of the Programme, the FIFA Council approved the amount of USD 8.48 million in rewards for clubs.
- The amounts will be distributed to the clubs where the player:
 - a) is currently registered; and
 - b) spent her formative years between the ages of 12 to 22 ("the formative period"), i.e. her training club(s).
- A 50/50 split will be made between the player's releasing club and her training club(s).

2. Payments to clubs

2.1. Application procedure

As mentioned in the circular letter, we kindly request that participating member associations (PMAs) forward the Club Application Form to the relevant clubs affiliated to their MA, in order for them to complete it and

send it back to FIFA at clubbenefits2019@fifa.org. If the player, at any time during the period concerned, is or was registered with a club affiliated to a member association different to the PMA represented at the final tournament, FIFA will notify the respective member association(s) accordingly upon receipt of your Player Club History Form (cf. section 3 of this document).

Steps for the PMA summarised:

- The Player Club History Form should be sent to clubbenefits2019@fifa.org by 1 June.
- Forward the Club Application Form to all relevant clubs (i.e. releasing clubs and training clubs) affiliated to your member association by 1 June at the latest. *NB, if a player is transferred domestically to another club within your MA during the tournament, please forward the Club Application Form to this new club.*

2.2. Key principles

The club acknowledges and agrees that any payments that it is entitled to receive under the Programme, subject to the valid signature of the form and to possible taxes, will be distributed via the MA to which the club is affiliated after the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™. By signing the Club Application Form, the club agrees to the principle that FIFA’s decision in regard to the calculation of amounts due to the club is final and binding.

The calculations to determine the distribution of funds are based on a model that takes into consideration the number of players per club and the number of days each player spends at the final tournament. The formula for the calculations for the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™ is outlined below.

2.3. Calculation of payments and allocations

For the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™, the total gross amount available for payment to clubs (“Distribution Amount”) is USD 8.48 million.

The Distribution Amount (USD 8.48 million gross) accounts for an estimated amount per player, per day of around USD 450 (subject to any taxes and deductions).

Calculation breakdown – i.e. how the amount per day is determined:

Calculation	Amounts (USD)
Distribution Amount	8,480,000
Total cumulative days per team	814
Total cumulative days per player (814 x 23)	18,722
Amount per player, per day (8.48M / 18,722)	452.94

The amount of around USD 450 is multiplied by the number of days each player spends at the final competition of the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™, starting two weeks (14 days) before the opening match until the day following the last match of her representative team in the final tournament (“Total per Player”). It is not relevant whether or not the player actually played in any given match.

The Total per Player is split into two equal shares which will be distributed as follows:

Club Benefits Programme Distribution	
Releasing Club Reward	<p>50% of the Total per Player will be distributed to the club with which the player is registered at 24 May 2019, thus the “releasing club”.</p> <p><i>NB: if the player is transferred during the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™, the new club will also become a releasing club. The amounts due to the two clubs concerned will be calculated based on the number of days for which each club is releasing the player.</i></p>
Training Club Reward	<p>50% of the Total per Player will be distributed amongst the player’s training clubs between the ages 12-22.</p> <p><i>NB: within the Player History Form, the PMA shall indicate the club(s) with which the player has been registered since 1 January in the calendar year of her 12th birthday, up until 31 December in the calendar year of her 22nd birthday. Each year will be divided into two periods (1 January – 30 June/1 July – 31 December). For each period, the club with which the player was registered for the majority of days will receive the entire amount for this period.</i></p>

Payments will be distributed via the MAs. Any unclaimed amounts will be allocated to the total pot, meaning that the amounts per player, per day could increase.

2.4. Examples

2.4.1. Example for a player aged over 22:

Player X is selected to play for Representative Team A in the final competition of the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™.

Player X is registered with club Y at the release date (24 May 2019), thus 14 days prior to the opening match of the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™.

Representative Team A is eliminated in the quarter-finals of the competition (27 June 2019), which would result in a Total per Player amount of around USD 16,200 for Player X (36 days x USD 450).

Player X was registered with three training clubs between the ages 12-22 – Training Club A, Training Club B and Training Club C.

Releasing club:

50% of the Total per Player amount of USD 16,200 is shared with Club Y, where Player X is registered as at 24 May 2019.

Releasing Club	Club Benefits Amount
Club Y	USD 8,100

Training clubs:

The remaining 50% of the Total per Player amount of USD 16,200 (i.e. USD 8,100) is distributed among all of Player X’s training clubs (Training Club A, Training Club B and Training Club C) between the ages 12-22, which equates to a total of 11 training-club years. In this case, the amount distributed per training club is USD 736.36 per year.

Training Clubs	Number of years spent at Training Club	Club Benefits Amount (approx.)
Club A	2 years	USD 1,472.72
Club B	6 years	USD 4,418.18
Club C	3 years	USD 2,209.09

2.4.2. Example for a player aged 22 or younger:

Player X is 18 years old at the time of the final competition of the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™.

Releasing club:

50% of the Total per Player amount of USD 16,200 is shared with Club Y, where Player X is registered at 24 May 2019.

Releasing Club	Club Benefits Amount
Club Y	USD 8,100

Training clubs:

Player X was registered at two training clubs between the ages 12-18 – Training Club A and Training Club B.

The full training club amount of USD 8,100 will be distributed among Player X’s training clubs (Training Club A and Training Club B) for a total of seven training-club years. In this case, the amount distributed per training club is USD 1,157.14 per year.

Training Clubs	Number of years spent at Training Club	Club Benefits Amount (approx.)
Club A	3 years	USD 3,471.42
Club B	4 years	USD 4,628.57

3. PMA Player Club History Form – principles and procedures

Please use the Player Club History Form (Excel document) to complete the player history of the 23 players in your final squad list and send it to FIFA at clubbenefits2019@fifa.org by 1 June 2019.

If there is an injury to one or more players between 24 May and 7 July, we kindly ask you to resend us the form with the new player(s) listed.

Where the information is not available or not applicable, please indicate this by inserting “N/A”.

If the player has transferred from one club to another, please indicate the date of the transfer as well as the name of the new club.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email us at clubbenefits2019@fifa.org.

Please refer to this Player Club History Form to ensure the following:

- The clubs which are affiliated to your MA have been sent the Club Application Form.
- FIFA is able to identify clubs eligible for financial rewards which lie outside your MA.

CLUB APPLICATION FORM

TO BE DULY SIGNED AND SENT BY EMAIL TO FIFA BY 10 JULY 2019 (MUST BE RECEIVED BY FIFA BY THIS DATE), WITH A COPY SENT TO THE FIFA MEMBER ASSOCIATION TO WHICH YOU ARE AFFILIATED

Email: clubbenefits2019@fifa.org

FIFA member association to which you are affiliated: _____

Email and phone contact at member association: _____

CLUB APPLICATION FORM

From: _____ [name of club]

Phone: _____ [phone number of club]

Email: _____ [email address of club]

Please select either or both of the options below to declare your eligibility for the Club Benefits Programme at the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ (please refer to the "FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ Club Benefits Programme Guidelines):

Releasing club, and/or

Training club

to FIFA

Participation in the benefits of the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™

We, the undersigned club, hereby confirm our commitment to supporting representative-team competitions and to complying with the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players. We confirm that we wish to receive payments for our contribution to the successful staging of the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™ in accordance with the terms set out in this Club Application Form and in the guidelines received and understand that this signed Club Application Form must be returned to FIFA by the above date in order for us to do so.

We acknowledge and agree that any such payments that we are entitled to receive, subject to the valid signature of this form and to possible taxes, will be distributed after the successful staging of the FIFA Women's World Cup™ via the member association to which we are affiliated.

We acknowledge and agree that there will be no additional payments from FIFA or our confederation or any member association (other than under purely domestic relations between member associations and their clubs) in recognition of our contribution to the successful staging of the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019™, or in relation to the cost of insurance of players, without prejudice to any compensation from the FIFA Club Protection Programme, or any other matter (compensation of any kind) arising from the release or participation of players for

representative teams in general and in particular for the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™.

In particular, we confirm that we agree to the following:

- to recognise FIFA as world football’s governing body, in accordance with the FIFA Statutes;
- to participate only in competitions that are organised or recognised by our confederation, our member association and/or FIFA;
- not to be a member of any association or grouping involving clubs from more than one country (i.e. more than one member association) [for European clubs only: other than the European Club Association (ECA)];
- not to be a party to any legal proceedings against FIFA and/or our confederation and/or any member association as regards the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players and/or the FIFA Statutes;
- to make no claims against FIFA and/or our confederation and/or any other member association in relation to the cost of insurance of players, without prejudice to any claims relating to the FIFA Club Protection Programme, or any other matter (compensation of any kind) arising from the release or participation of players for representative teams and in particular for the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™ (the said release or participation does not concern purely domestic relations between our club and our member association);
- to comply with the applicable procedure, timetable and calculation mechanism defined by FIFA with regard to the calculation and distribution of the above-mentioned payments;
- to respect the women’s international match calendar as drawn up by FIFA following consultation with the confederations, member associations, clubs, leagues and players;
- to use the payments for youth and development programmes for girls. Even if the club is a men’s/boys’ club, the club must ensure talented women/girls can continue to have an access route through the men’s/boys’ elite pathway system;
- to be subject to and adhere to the statutes and regulations of FIFA and of our confederation;
- to recognise the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne (Switzerland) as the sole competent body to decide on disputes (including this Club Application Form) between our club and FIFA and/or the confederations (and their members), as stipulated in the FIFA Statutes;
- to return the original of this form to FIFA upon its first request;
- not to assign any rights and duties in relation to this Club Application Form to any third party without the prior written and explicit permission of FIFA;
- by signing the Club Application Form, the club agrees to the principle that FIFA’s decision in regard to the calculation of amounts due to the club, which is done on a case-by-case basis, is final and binding.

We acknowledge and agree that non-compliance with the above conditions and obligations will mean that our club will forgo any entitlement to receive payments in connection with our contribution to the successful staging of the FIFA Women’s World Cup France 2019™ and that any other appropriate measures may be taken in accordance with the statutes and regulations of FIFA and/or of our confederation.

We have read and understood this Club Application Form. We confirm that our signature of this document constitutes a binding and irrevocable expression of our full agreement with it.

Place and date: _____

On behalf of: _____ [name of the club]

Name and position within the club: _____

Signature: _____

