

TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1682

Zurich, 25 July 2019

SG/fad/gde

Three-step procedure for discriminatory incidents

Dear Sir or Madam,

Based on Law 5 of the Laws of the Game, FIFA has used the three-step procedure for discriminatory incidents in its competitions since the FIFA Confederations Cup Russia 2017.

In accordance with the public call by the FIFA President, FIFA now urges all member associations, leagues, clubs and disciplinary bodies to introduce the three-step procedure in their domestic competitions, to pursue a zero-tolerance policy towards racist and discriminatory incidents in football, and to severely punish such behaviour.

The three-step procedure allows referees, in the event of serious discriminatory incidents in the stadium, to:

1. **stop the match** (followed by a stadium announcement with the necessary explanation and request for the discriminatory incident to stop);
2. **suspend the match** by sending the players back to the changing room for an appropriate period of time (followed by a stadium announcement with the necessary explanation and request for the discriminatory incident to stop);
3. **abandon the match** (followed by a stadium announcement with the necessary explanation and request to leave the stadium, in accordance with the instructions of the security personnel).

You will find guidance and details on the implementation of the three-step procedure for FIFA competitions, including a preventive announcement to be read before each match and a reactive announcement that can be used before the three-step procedure without interrupting the match, on the FIFA Competitions Extranet:

- <https://extranets.fifa.com/en/FIFACompetitions/fifa-preliminary-competitions/circulars/>

Please carefully read the steps in order to adapt them to your needs and circumstances and implement them at national level.

Additional detailed suggestions on how to strengthen your work to promote diversity and fight discrimination in football can be found in the FIFA Good Practice Guide on Diversity and Anti-Discrimination:

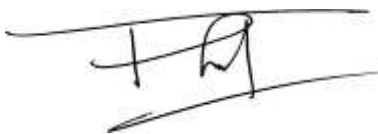
- <http://www.fifa.com/goodpracticeguide>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Diversity and Anti-Discrimination Manager, Gerd Dembowski (gerd.dembowski@fifa.org).

Together, we will continue to make every effort to effectively combat racism and all other forms of discrimination at all levels and throughout the world of football.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

- cc:
- FIFA Council
 - Organising Committee for FIFA Competitions
 - FIFA Disciplinary Committee
 - independent Ethics Committee
 - Confederations