



**FOOTBALL
AUSTRALIA**

Football Australia Circular

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TO THE MEMBERS OF FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA

Implementation of International and Domestic Loan Provisions in Australian football

The purpose of this circular is to provide an update to the members of Football Australia (**FA**) on recent amendments to the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (**RSTP**) and the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations (**NRSTRs**), being the implementation of new international and domestic loan requirements.

FIFA has amended the RSTP to include new provisions relating to the loan of professional players in international football. These provisions came into force 1 July 2022.

The FIFA RSTP amendments comprise part of a suite of broader reforms to the international player system that must be implemented at a national level by all FIFA Member Associations. Each Member Association must also include regulations on a domestic loan system that are aligned with the international loan system, and in particular, include the principles of ensuring integrity of competitions, developing young players and preventing the hoarding of players.

Following consultations with stakeholders, FA has incorporated feedback and updated the domestic loan provisions and the international loan provisions in the NRSTRs, and these updates have been approved by the FA Board.

A summary of the international and domestic loan provision updates incorporated into the NRSTRs are as follows:

- (a) the requirement of a written agreement defining the terms of the loan, in particular its duration and financial conditions;
- (b) a minimum loan duration of the time between two registration periods;
- (c) a maximum loan duration of one year;
- (d) a prohibition on sub-loaning of players to a third club;
- (e) a limitation on the number of international loans per season between the same clubs:
 - At any given time during a season, a club may only have a maximum of three (3) professionals loaned out to a single club and a maximum of three (3) professionals loaned in from a single club.
- (f) a limitation on the number of domestic loans per season between the same clubs:
 - At any given time during a season, a men's club may only have a maximum of three (3) professionals loaned out to a single club and a maximum of three (3) professionals loaned in from a single club.

- From 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2024, at any given time during a season, a women's club may only have a maximum of six (6) professionals loaned out to a single club and a maximum of six (6) professionals loaned in from a single club.
 - From 1 July 2024, at any given time during a season, a women's club may only have a maximum of four (4) professionals loaned out to a single club and a maximum of four (4) professionals loaned in from a single club.
- (g) a limitation on a club's total number of international loans per season. To ensure that this is implemented smoothly, there will be a transitional period as follows:
- From 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, a club may have a maximum of eight (8) professionals loaned out and eight (8) loaned in at any given time during a season.
 - From 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, the same configuration applies but with a maximum of seven (7) professionals.
 - Finally, from 1 July 2024, the same configuration will apply but limited to a maximum of six (6) professionals.
- (h) a limitation on a club's total number of domestic loans per season. To ensure that this is implemented smoothly, there will be a transitional period as follows:
- From 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, a men's club may have a maximum of eight (8) men's professionals loaned out and eight (8) loaned in at any given time during a season, including a maximum of two (2) intra-league loans out and two (2) intra-league loans in for A-League Men clubs.
 - From 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, the same configuration applies but with a maximum of seven (7) men's professionals, including a maximum of two (2) intra-league loans for A-League Men clubs.
 - Finally, from 1 July 2024, the same configuration will apply but limited to a maximum of six (6) men's professionals, including a maximum of two (2) intra-league loans for A-League Men clubs.
 - From 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, a women's club may have a maximum of twelve (12) women's professionals loaned out and twelve (12) loaned in at any given time during a season.
 - From 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, the same configuration applies but with a maximum of ten (10) women's professionals.
 - Finally, from 1 July 2024, the same configuration will apply but limited to a maximum of eight (8) women's professionals.
- (i) a specific exception to the limitation on the total number of loans per season (international and domestic), in order to promote the principle of youth development:
- A professional player who is loaned before the end of the season of their parent club in which the professional turns 21 and who is a club-trained player with the parent club will not count towards a club's total number of loans per season.
 - A club-trained player is defined as a player who, between the ages of fifteen (15) (or the start of the season during which they turn fifteen (15)) and twenty-one (21) (or at the start of the season during which they turn twenty-one (21)), is registered with their parent club (or, for domestic loans, in limited circumstances only, a club with a formal partnership with the parent club, which must always be approved by FA) for a period of three (3) entire seasons or thirty-six (36) months, regardless of whether the period is continuous or not.

A copy of the revised NRSTRs is available via Football Australia's website.

If you have any queries in relation to this Circular, please contact legal@footballaustralia.com.au.

Yours sincerely



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Football Australia