



**FOOTBALL  
AUSTRALIA**

# Football Australia Circular

Digital Circular No. 24-02

20 November 2024

**TO: ALL MEMBER FEDERATION CEOs AND PRESIDENTS**

## **RE: Football Australia National Registration Platform – Play Football v2.0**

### **History/Background**

Each FIFA Member Association must implement a national online registration platform to assign participants a FIFA ID, enabling secure electronic information exchange.

Beyond fulfilling this mandate, the platform offers a single source of accurate participant data, ensuring data integrity and transparency. This strengthens Football Australia's mission to promote and manage football across the country, supporting all football stakeholders and participants with an efficient communication tool.

The new registration platform, Play Football v2.0, will be launched to participants on 2 December 2024.

### **Purpose Of Football Participant Registration**

As the governing body of football in Australia, Football Australia oversees the organisation, promotion and administration of football matches and competitions nationwide. Play Football v2.0 captures participant information and has been developed to:

- Comply with FIFA, AFC and Football Australia Statutes <sup>1 2 3</sup> including the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations (NRSTRs).
- Ensure football is regulated in a consistent and coordinated manner across the states, territories, associations and clubs.<sup>4</sup>
- Register all participants and all forms of organised football under Football Australia's jurisdiction, including eleven-a-side or outdoor football, modified football, futsal or indoor football, beach football, summer football, MiniRoos and schools' football.<sup>5</sup>
- Facilitate investigations regarding a complaint or breach of the Football Australia Statutes, including the National Integrity Framework.<sup>6</sup>
- Facilitate the implementation and administration of disciplinary sanctions.<sup>7</sup>
- Provide administrators with relevant information about participants.

**Member Federations must ensure that all participants** involved in all forms of organised football under Football Australia's jurisdiction, including players, coaches, referees, team managers and volunteers in each of their Associations and clubs register directly via Play Football v2.0.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Art 2.2(b), (h) NRSTRs.

<sup>2</sup> Art 2.2(h) NRSTRs, Art 5.1 and Defn 18 RSTPs.

<sup>3</sup> Art 2.2(b), (h) NRSTRs.

<sup>4</sup> Art 2.2(b), 2.3(a) NRSTRs.

<sup>5</sup> Art 2.1(a), 2.3(b) NRSTRs.

<sup>6</sup> Art 2.4(b)(iii) NRSTRs.

<sup>7</sup> Art 2.4(b)(iv) NRSTRs.

<sup>8</sup> Art 6.2(a), Art 16.2(a) NRSTRs, Art 4(c) Football Australia Constitution.

By the act of registration, participants agree to abide by the Football Australia Statutes and, if applicable, the FIFA Statutes and the AFC Statutes and become a Constituent of Football Australia.<sup>9</sup>

### Benefits Of Registration

As the FIFA and Australian Sports Commission approved Governing Body for Football and Futsal in Australia, Football Australia is responsible for ensuring Australia's football community can engage with World Class tournaments, has strong National Teams and engage with the Australian Government to unlock funding for improved community club facilities.

With the successful delivery of the FIFA Women's World Cup 23 and 'best ever' World Cup performances from our Matildas and Socceroos, Football Australia has partnered with our community clubs, Member Federations, associations, players and Governments to drive strong participation growth and invest in the future of our game.

All Football Australia registration is through Play Football v2.0. Play Football v2.0 benefits Member Federations, clubs, associations and individual participants. Member Federations, clubs, associations and participants who do not register through Play Football v2.0 do not have access to or receive these benefits.

The Play Football v2.0 registration process requires all football participants to agree to abide by Football Australia's national regulations and policies, the National Disciplinary Regulations, the Code of Conduct and Ethics, the National Anti-Doping Policy and the Member Protection Framework.

### Benefits of registration include:

Benefit	Who Benefits	Description
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players.</li> <li>• Match Officials.</li> <li>• Club/Team Officials.</li> <li>• Clubs.</li> <li>• Associations.</li> <li>• Member Federations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership of, and voting rights to, the governing bodies of football in Australia.</li> </ul>
National Insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players.</li> <li>• Club/Team Officials.</li> <li>• Match Officials.</li> <li>• Clubs.</li> <li>• Associations.</li> <li>• Member Federations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protects football and mitigates risk through effective risk management practices.</li> <li>• A component of every participant's registration fee contributes to a suite of insurances.</li> </ul>
Member Protection Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players.</li> <li>• Match Officials.</li> <li>• Club/Team Officials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Football Australia Member Protection Framework assists in ensuring that every person involved in football in Australia is treated with respect and dignity, and is kept safe and protected from abuse, bullying and harassment and discrimination.</li> <li>• This is an essential part of our organisation's proactive and preventative approach to tackling inappropriate behaviour.</li> </ul>
Policies and Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players.</li> <li>• Club/Team Officials.</li> <li>• Match Officials.</li> <li>• Clubs.</li> <li>• Associations.</li> <li>• Member Federations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to National and State policies and procedures with access to best practice information.</li> <li>• This includes access to National Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures.</li> </ul>
Pathways for players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players can challenge themselves at a higher level with like-minded peers and</li> </ul>

<sup>9</sup> Art 4(b), Art 6.4(a) Football Australia Constitution.

		<p>progress up the ranks. For those who want to reach the top level (professional), these are the natural pathways for them through club football within Australia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative programs, tournaments and teams that are organised for the best players in the state and nationally (e.g., National Youth Championships).</li> <li>• Participation in various Football Australia and Member Federation competitions, including Australia Cup, State Cup, Champion of Champions.</li> </ul>
Pathways for Match Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Match Officials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive pathway for community and advanced Match Officials, Match Official assessors and instructors.</li> <li>• Access to accredited Match Officials for the purposes of facilitating competitions.</li> </ul>
Pathways for coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaches.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football Australia offers coaching courses for all levels of the game, from volunteer to advanced coaching courses.</li> <li>• Football Australia also provides coaching CPD hours for the purposes of accreditation/revalidation of coaching qualifications.</li> </ul>
Community Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players.</li> <li>• Club/Team Officials.</li> <li>• Match Officials.</li> <li>• Clubs.</li> <li>• Associations.</li> <li>• Member Federations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growing Football Fund to support the continued growth of women's football across Australia. Community clubs and associations will have access to grants to support initiatives and programs that look to develop and/or promote women's and girls' football.</li> <li>• Access to a range of infrastructure grants.</li> </ul>
Government Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players.</li> <li>• Club/Team Officials.</li> <li>• Match Officials.</li> <li>• Clubs.</li> <li>• Associations.</li> <li>• Member Federations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football Australia secured funding for hosting the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™ from Federal &amp; State Governments for Participation, High Performance, Community Facilities to support community football.</li> </ul>
Clubs and volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players.</li> <li>• Club/Team Officials.</li> <li>• Clubs.</li> <li>• Associations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Club Changer is Football Australia's Club Development Program which provides resources and guides for Clubs. The program also aims to protect and enhance Clubs to make them stronger and more resilient, lead them in building welcoming and inclusive cultures, and educate them on positive environments for players, coaches, volunteers, and officials while planning for long term viability.</li> </ul>
FIFA and AFC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players.</li> <li>• Club/Team Officials.</li> <li>• Match Officials.</li> <li>• Clubs.</li> <li>• Associations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affiliation to FIFA and AFC.</li> <li>• Alignment and compliance with FIFA and AFC.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member Federations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football Australia access to international Member Protection and Integrity frameworks and resources.</li> <li>Clubs and participants are recognised through a national and international registration platform.</li> <li>Access to an international Club Licensing program.</li> <li>Access to international programs (e.g., FIFA for Schools).</li> </ul>
FIFA Compensation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clubs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FIFA's online TMS system links to Play Football v2.0 making international transfers of players between clubs quicker, smoother and more transparent.</li> <li>Only registered users from Clubs and associations have access to the online system to process transfers and to obtain information about participants.</li> <li>Training compensation and solidarity contributions, payable on the transfer of players in certain cases, is calculated on the TMS system.</li> </ul>
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Players.</li> <li>Club/Team Officials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Participants receive a Football Account and can update their communication preferences to receive priority ticketing offers to National Team matches (including within Australia, FIFA World Cups, AFC Asian Cups and other tournaments) and receive news on Football Australia initiatives, National Teams and Competitions.</li> </ul>
Commercial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Players.</li> <li>Club/Team Officials.</li> <li>Match Officials.</li> <li>Clubs.</li> <li>Associations.</li> <li>Member Federations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priority access to Socceroos and Matildas tickets</li> <li>Priority access and discounted tickets to Socceroos and Matildas matches for those participants who have registered for priority ticketing access</li> <li>Football Australia commercial partners offers and incentives</li> </ul>

### National Registration Platform FAQ

Question	Answer
<b>What is the Play Football v2.0 platform, and why is it being launched?</b>	Play Football v2.0 is the national online registration platform required by FIFA for each FIFA Member Association to assign participants a FIFA ID. Beyond FIFA compliance, it ensures data integrity and facilitates communication.
<b>When will Play Football v2.0 be launched?</b>	Play Football v2.0 will be launched nationally on 2 December 2024.
<b>What is the purpose of Play Football v2.0 registration?</b>	Registration in Play Football v2.0 helps Football Australia to comply with FIFA, AFC, and Football Australia statutes, regulate football consistently, register all forms of organised football and all types of participants, and facilitate investigations, disciplinary processes, and participant management.
<b>Who is required to register on Play Football v2.0?</b>	All participants involved in organised football under Football Australia's jurisdiction must register via Play Football v2.0,

	including players, coaches, referees, team managers, and volunteers.
<b>What benefits does Play Football v2.0 provide?</b>	Become a recognised Constituent of Football Australia leading to benefits for participants which include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. National Insurance: Registration fees contribute to insurance coverage for a wide range of participants (policy limits and T&amp;Cs apply)</li> <li>2. Pathways: For players, match officials, and coaches to develop and progress, including the ability to compete in the Australia Cup, State Cup and Champion of Champions (where applicable).</li> </ol>
<b>What are the registration requirements for Member Federations?</b>	Member Federations must ensure that all participants in organised football under their jurisdiction register through Play Football v2.0, agreeing to abide by Football Australia, FIFA, and AFC statutes.
<b>What is the role of Play Football v2.0 in international relations?</b>	Play Football v2.0 enables Football Australia to align with FIFA and AFC standards, provides international recognition, and offers access to global frameworks and programs such as the international Club Licensing program and FIFA for Schools.
<b>How does Play Football v2.0 support player transfers and compensation?</b>	It links to FIFA's Transfer Matching System (TMS), streamlining international transfers and enabling registered clubs and associations to access information for processing transfers and calculating training compensation and solidarity contributions.
<b>What kind of communication benefits are available through Play Football v2.0?</b>	Participants receive a Football Account that enables communication preferences, giving priority ticketing access to Socceroos and Matildas matches and updates on Football Australia initiatives.
<b>Are there commercial benefits tied to registration through Play Football v2.0?</b>	Yes, registered participants gain priority access and discounted tickets for Socceroos and Matildas matches, as well as special offers from Football Australia's commercial partners.
<b>What happens to Participants, Member Federations, clubs, or associations that do not register?</b>	Those who do not register are not recognised Football Australia Constituents or participants and are unable to be provided with participant and constituent benefits such as insurance, access to pathways, communication, and commercial advantages.

Yours sincerely,



**James Johnson**  
Chief Executive Officer / General Secretary  
Football Australia