

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019



## Club Secretaries at Steps 1 to 6 of the National League System

Dear Secretary,

### International Clearances

In view of recent issues arising in relation to the above, The FA would like to remind clubs of their obligations when checking a player's eligibility to register and participate in organised football within England. Clubs are reminded that this is a requirement of FIFA regulations at all levels of the game.

If any of the following scenarios relate to a player your club is seeking to register, we strongly recommend that the club contact The FA in the first instance. Our records will then be checked and information can be verified with other National Associations if necessary. Clarification can then be provided as to whether international clearance is required.

Please note that just because a player has already been playing in England, it may be the case that his current (or previous) clubs have not carried out the necessary checks to ensure the player has had international clearance. Therefore, unless the player can provide you with documentary evidence of his international clearance, you should contact the FA's Player Status team at [registrations@thefa.com](mailto:registrations@thefa.com).

You should take the above steps if the Player has:

- ever played for a club outside of England, including in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland;
- not played abroad but is a foreign national (i.e. is not British);
- was a foreign national but has subsequently obtained British Citizenship;
- attended a trial or attended a college/university etc. overseas; or he
- is a foreign national who has previously attended an 'academy' outside of a professional club within England.

In order to make the necessary checks, we will require the following information, and where possible a copy of the player's photo ID: full name, date of birth, place of birth, nationality, date (month and year) of when the player relocated to England.

### **Applications for International Clearance**

The FA website holds our guidance notes on the international clearance process, including the ITC request forms. They can all be found via the following link: [TheFA.com/Clearance](http://TheFA.com/Clearance). When making an international clearance request for an adult (over 18) player, please ensure photo ID is included.

When applying for international clearance for a Minor (Under 18), please ensure that all mandatory documents are supplied as well as all documents relating to the specific FIFA Article under which you are making the application.

Please contact the Player Status department at The FA if you have any queries in relation to international clearances.

Thank you for taking note of the above.

**Player Status Team - National Game**  
**The Football Association**



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Her Majesty The Queen  
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HRH The Duke of Cambridge KG

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