



GUIDANCE NOTES

INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCE REQUEST FOR ASYLUM SEEKER/REFUGEE

ADULTS (FOR PLAYERS FROM THE AGE OF 18)

FIFA has provided clarification regarding individuals from the age of 18 and over arriving into the UK as an asylum seeker or refugee and wishing to register for a football Club in England.

In order for the player to be registered, special dispensation will need to be obtained from the FIFA Players' Status Department, via The FA. The Club will need to provide the following documentation to The FA who will then submit a claim for special dispensation to FIFA who will then adjudicate on a case by case basis before making a decision.

Documents required (sent in pdf format):

- **Proof of birth of the player** - Birth certificate (where possible)
- **Proof of identity and nationality of the player** - Such as the player's passport or residence permit (where possible)
- **Proof of refugee status of the player** - Copy of the Home Office letter granting asylum
- **Status of player with former Club** - Details as to where the player was last registered (if applicable) and under what status
- **Status of player with new Club (amateur or professional)** Please note: professional is not applicable below Step 6 of the National League System. If the player is registering as a professional with his new club, we will require further documentation such as a copy of his playing contract

FIFA will then contact the player's former Association, but without indicating where the player is seeking to be registered. It will then go to the Single Judge for a final decision, which will be relayed to the Club, via The FA.

These cases can be a lengthy process, especially the collation of documents and waiting for FIFA to pass judgement on each case, so we therefore request all parties to provide as much evidence as they can in the first instance and to bear with us while dealing with a number of cases in the same situation.





GUIDANCE NOTES - CONTINUED

Please note that both FIFA and The FA take very seriously the position of asylum seekers and refugees and all parties can, therefore, be comforted as to the discretion of both organisations when handling these sensitive cases. Through FIFA, and ourselves, the whereabouts of any asylum seeker/refugee will not be made known to the authorities of his/her home country.

This guidance does not alter or replace any of The FA's Rules and Regulations (or the rules and regulations of any Competition, Confederation or FIFA) (together referred to as the "Rules and Regulations"). The Rules and Regulations should be referred to for the full provisions relating to International Clearance requests for Asylum Seekers/Refugees. In the event of any inconsistency between this guidance and the Rules and Regulations, the Rules and Regulations apply. The FA accepts no liability whatsoever in respect of any action taken against clubs and/or their players/officials regarding compliance with any such Rules and Regulations.