

FIFA · REGULATIONS ON THE STATUS AND TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

Main Changes in the FIFA RSTP 2027

Key changes at a glance, with the articles they come from

Pancyprian Footballers Association
48 Themistokli Dervi, Office 202, 1066 Nicosia, Cyprus
Tel: +357 22 466 508 • Fax: +357 22 375 755
E-mail: info@pasp.org.cy
Website: www.pasp.org.cy

FIFA · RSTP 2027

Executive summary

New rules effective 1 January 2027

Dear Members,

From 1 January 2027, FIFA's revised Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players will change how compensation is calculated when a contract is breached, strengthen protections against abusive club conduct, and give eligible players a share of the fee from certain international transfers. The reforms also revise the rules on interest for overdue payments, sporting sanctions and contracts for players under 18.

The sections that follow explain the main changes and when they apply. If you have questions about how the new rules affect your contract, a proposed transfer or an ongoing dispute, you can contact PASP's Legal Department for support at legal@pasp.org.cy.

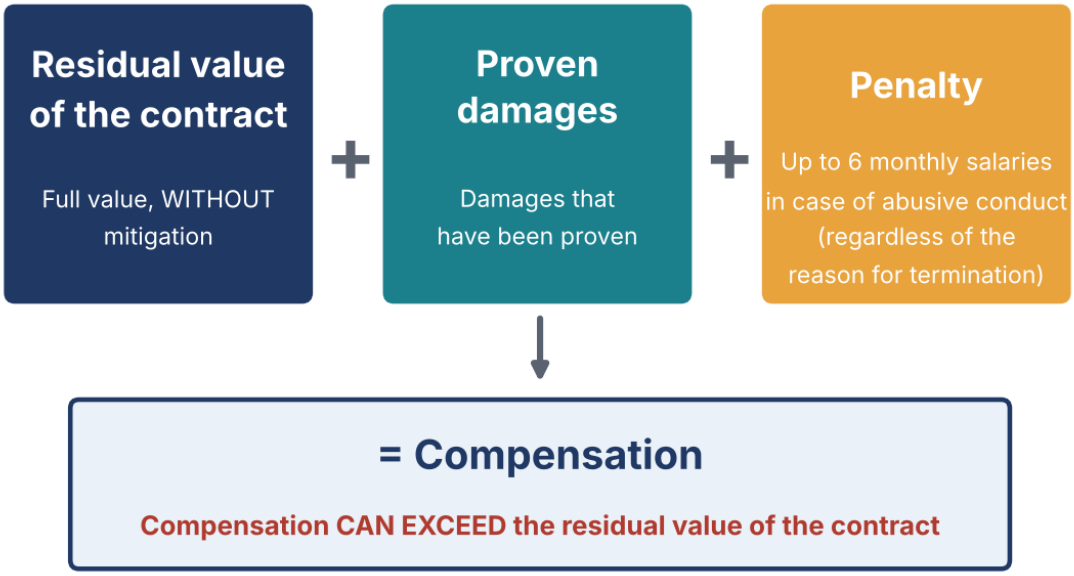
Ioannis Kakouris
Legal Counsel, PASP

Overview

#	Topic	Reference
1	Calculation of compensation	Art. 17 par. 2-7
2	Liquidated damages clauses	Art. 17 par. 1
3	Percentage of the transfer fees for players	Art. 21bis
4	5-year contract for minors	Art. 18 par. 2
5	Codification of abusive conducts	Art. 14
6	Sporting sanctions & protected period	Art. 17 par. 10 & Definitions nr. 7
7	Default interest rate	Art. 23 par. 5
8	Transitional measures	-

ART. 17 PAR. 2-7

01 Calculation of compensation



Abusive conduct: the penalty of up to 6 monthly salaries applies regardless of the reason for termination.

ART. 17 PAR. 1

02 Liquidated damages clauses

USD 150,000

yearly fixed remuneration (or its equivalent): the threshold up to which the rule applies

For players earning a yearly fixed remuneration of up to USD 150,000 (or its equivalent), any liquidated damages clause must, as a minimum, grant the player the **residual value of the contract that was breached**, unless exceptional circumstances justify a lower amount.

NOTE: the liquidated damages clause is **NOT MANDATORY**.

ART. 21BIS

03 Percentage of the transfer fees for players

Applies to **international permanent transfers**. It is **mandatory** when the player earns **up to €150,000** (or equivalent) per year.

5%

minimum entitlement: share of the fixed transfer fee paid by the releasing club (actually received)

€150,000

yearly earnings ceiling (or equivalent) for the mandatory entitlement

2.5%

waiver floor: alternative minimum if the player partially waives

Limited waiver

The player may partially waive their 5%, but must still receive at least the **higher of**:

- their last annual fixed remuneration, or
- 2.5% of the transfer fee.

Any waiver below this threshold is invalid.

NO ENTITLEMENT: if prohibited by national law, CBA or domestic regulations limited to national RSTP by 1 July 2026.

ART. 18 PAR. 2

04 5-year contract for minors

Contracts for minors still have, as a principle, a maximum length of **3 years**, BUT this is **increased to 5 years ONLY under the following conditions:**



Conditions

Condition	Detail
Club trained	Minor has been registered at a club for 20 months or 2 consecutive competition periods (whichever is shorter) prior to signing the contract.
Cap	Maximum 5 per season in these conditions.
4th year	**Mandatory minimum increase of 10%**, plus 20% for more than 10 appearances in official matches in the first team (in the 3rd year).
5th year	**Mandatory minimum increase of 20%** for more than 10 appearances in official matches in the first team (in the 4th year).

ART. 14

05 Codification of abusive conducts

The same general provision is maintained, but more detail is added by **codifying abusive conducts**. In particular, no club may:

a)
abuse the registration or de-registration of a player as a means of pressure

b)
separate a player in an abusive manner from training with the team

c)
withhold a passport from a player

d)
unduly evict a player from their home

ART. 17 PAR. 10 & DEFINITIONS NR. 7

06 Sporting sanctions & protected period

Protected period



Contract signed by a player	Protected period
Prior to their 23rd birthday	**Four** entire seasons or four years, whichever comes first
On or after their 23rd birthday, and prior to their 28th	**Three** entire seasons or three years, whichever comes first
On or after their 28th birthday, and prior to their 32nd	**Two** entire seasons or two years, whichever comes first
On or after their 32nd birthday	**One** entire season or one year, whichever comes first

Sporting sanctions

1st breach	A warning and a fine.
2nd breach	A limitation preventing the club from registering more than five new players, either nationally or internationally, for one registration period, and a fine.
3rd breach	A ban from registering any new players for one entire registration period, either nationally or internationally, and a fine.
4th breach	A ban from registering any new players for two entire and consecutive registration periods, either nationally or internationally, and a fine.

Further breaches: the Football Tribunal may impose additional sanctions at its discretion.

Aggravating circumstances: the sanctions foreseen for the 3rd or 4th breach can be imposed directly.

ART. 23 PAR. 5

07 Default interest rate

8%
per annum

When: in cases of overdue payables or outstanding remuneration.

Who decides: the Football Tribunal shall award standard interest for late payment.

Condition: subject to a valid request from the claimant.

Contractual rate: without prejudice to a contractually agreed interest rate.

08 Transitional measures

For all cases brought before the Football Tribunal for adjudication:

a	These regulations apply to cases where the facts giving rise to the dispute arose **after** these regulations enter into force.
b	Article 21bis and article 17 paragraph 1 apply **only to contracts concluded as of the date** on which these regulations enter into force.
c	All other cases shall be assessed according to the **previous regulations**.