



THE FOOTBALL TRIBUNAL

On the 21st May 2021, the 71st FIFA Congress approved the creation of the Football Tribunal and, in doing so, sanctioned a full-scale review of the governance structure and powers of the FIFA decision-making bodies.

This followed discussions with various stakeholders via the Task Force Transfer System, with the key concept being **consolidation**. In essence, the Football Tribunal consolidates the existing FIFA decision-making bodies into a single umbrella body and facilitates an efficient approach to the resolution of disputes and decisions on regulatory application within the football regulatory framework. The key points related to this new framework are:

A single regulatory decision-making body

A single regulatory decision-making body now consolidates the powers previously attributed to the Players Status Committee and Dispute Resolution Chamber. The Football Tribunal is comprised of the following three specific chambers:



The Dispute Resolution Chamber

Decides employment-related disputes between players and clubs, and disputes related to training rewards.



The Players' Status Chamber

Decides employment-related disputes between coaches and clubs or associations, transfer-related disputes between clubs, and regulatory applications related to the international transfer system and the eligibility of players to participate for representative teams; and



The Agents Chamber

Decides disputes involving football agents, following the approval of the FIFA Football Agent Regulations.



New Procedural Rules Governing the Football Tribunal

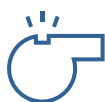
The Football Tribunal is governed by specific procedural rules, which include the following new matters:



Procedures are free of charge if at least one of the parties is a natural person (player, coach, football agent or match agent).



The deadline to pay procedural costs (if applicable) is now ten days. Payment remains a requirement for the grounds of a decision to be notified. In such cases, notification will only be made to the party that requested the grounds and paid the procedural costs.



An expedited decision-making process for preliminary procedural matters has been introduced. Where the FIFA general secretariat deems that a chamber obviously lacks jurisdiction or a claim is obviously time-barred, it may refer the matter for a decision before continuing the procedure.



Parties may be invited to undertake a voluntary and free mediation process. If mediation is successful, the mediator and relevant chairperson will ratify a settlement agreement. This will be considered a final and binding decision.

THE FOOTBALL TRIBUNAL BECOMES OPERATIONAL ON 1 OCTOBER 2021