

# International Clearance Regulation Crackdown

FIFA are putting significant pressure on National Bodies (i.e. Football Federation Australia) to fully enforce Article 19 (Protection of Minors) of the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players. As a result Football Federation Australia and Football Queensland are required to increase our scrutiny of players who fall into this category.

Under this regulation all players that are not Australian Nationals, and have had their 12th birthday, regardless of whether they played football overseas or not, require an International Clearance. The FIFA definition of an Australian National is a person that is an Australian Citizen (Australian Residency does not count).

Additionally the regulation does not permit FFA to request an International Clearance for a person under the age of 18 that has moved to Australia without their family.

So if you have a new player come to your club and they have had their 12th birthday, you must make sure you:

1. sight proof of identity that also proves whether they are an Australian National or not;
2. determine if they have moved to your club from another club or whether they are registering in Australia for the first time:
  - If they are registering in Australia for the first time, they must apply for an international clearance and they cannot play in any fixture until an International Clearance Certificate is issued;
  - If they have previously registered for another club, they or their previous club must supply your Club with a copy of their International Clearance Certificate. Until they do so they should not play in any fixture to protect your club;
  - If they have previously registered for another club and they or their previous club cannot supply your Club with a copy of their International Clearance Certificate, they must apply for an international clearance and they cannot play in any fixture until an International Clearance Certificate is issued.

Also, if you have a player previously registered to your club, who have had their 12th birthday and are not an Australian National, that you don't have an International Clearance Certificate for you must apply for an international clearance and they cannot play in any fixture until an International Clearance Certificate is issued. The only exception to this is if that player first registered with yours or another club before their 12th birthday.

Players playing without an international certificate will be regarded as an ineligible player and loss of points or fines may apply.

If you have any questions regarding international clearances please contact the Football Queensland Office on [admin@footballqueensland.com.au](mailto:admin@footballqueensland.com.au).

