

INTERNATIONAL - FIFA

After a serious knee injury, the club complied with the above-mentioned clause and terminated the contract with "just cause". However, the player sued the club before the DRC and the chamber ruled that the clause could not be considered valid, since it violates the principle of contractual stability and is arbitrary and abusive. The DRC decided that the content of this clause only benefits the club.

The compensation is to be calculated on the basis of Article 17 of the Regulations on the Status and Transfers of Players (RSTP). As he did not sign a contract with another club to mitigate the damage due to his injury, this means the compensation shall be calculated on the basis of the original contract: the amounts due to the player since the date of termination of the contract without just cause to the initial termination of the contract, from 8 January 2015 to 30 June 2015.

Other claims from the player such as medical expenses, sport damage and specificity of the sport were rejected due to lack of proof and legal basis. Legal expenses were also rejected due to Article 18 point 4 of the Rules of the procedure, which does not allow conceding any procedure compensation.

FIFA dismisses the Appeals of Real Madrid and Atlético Madrid in the cases of "Protection of minors"

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→ FIFA Regulations - Minors - Transfer ban - FIFA Appeal Committee



The appeals lodged by Atlético de Madrid and Real Madrid against the decisions of the FIFA Disciplinary Committee in the respective cases relating to the protection of minors were entirely rejected by the FIFA Appeal Committee on 8 September 2016.

Both clubs were ordered to serve a transfer ban that prevents them from registering any players at the national and international level for the next two complete and consecutive registration periods. FIFA has found the two clubs guilty of breaching Articles 5, 9, 19 and 19bis as well as Annexes 2 and 3 of the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players (the "Regulations").

Atlético de Madrid and Real Madrid have also been fined CHF 900,000 (approx. EUR 830,000) and CHF 360,000 (approx. EUR 330,000) respectively. Additionally, as informed FIFA, both clubs have been issued with a reprimand and a warning and given 90 days to regularise the situation of all minor players concerned.

The reaction of the clubs was immediate. Both clubs disagreed with the sanctions imposed and decided to proceed to appeal the respective decisions of the FIFA Appeal Committee to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

In its statement, Atlético de Madrid announced that 100% of the licenses of its players that were part of this investigation and are still in the club have been regularised by FIFA, receiving the authorisation from the subcommittee in order to process their licenses and compete in their different categories.

Real Madrid then stated that the appeal to the CAS would be filed immediately and the club would request that the procedure be undertaken in an urgent manner in order to obtain the award from the CAS as quickly as possible. Such award in the opinion of the club should completely overturn FIFA's decision.

Prior to the filing of this appeal, Real Madrid CF requested urgent interim measures from CAS in order to stay the execution of point 6 of the FIFA decision. Such request was granted by CAS on 16 September 2016 (CAS Media release, 16 September 2016). Accordingly, only point 6 of the decision was suspended, pending the outcome of the appeal. The other elements of the FIFA decision remained in force for the time being.

Point 6 of the FIFA decision reads as follows (free translation from the original Spanish text):

"Real Madrid CF is granted with a term of 90 days to regularize the situation of the minors within the club. In particular the club shall present, without further delay, the relevant requests to the Subcommittee appointed by the Player's Status Committee and comply with all the relevant rules and regulations with

respect to the specific cases. Should the club obtain the approval of the subcommittee for registration/transfer of a player, the club shall be exempt of the prohibition imposed by the present decision for the registration/transfer of the authorized minor."

The FIFA Ethics Committee is active!

By Ronan DAVID Chief Editor of Football Legal Bordeaux - France

→ FIFA Ethics Committee - Disciplinary litigation



Luis Bedoya, former FIFA Executive Committee member, former Vice-President of CONMEBOL and former President of the Colombian FA, has been banned for life from all football-related activities.

Over the last few months, the FIFA Ethics Committee has imposed sanctions on several football officials.

On 29 April 2016, the adjudicatory chamber of the Ethics Committee announced that it had decided to ban Mr Lionel HAVEN from all football-related activities (administrative, sports or any other) at both national and international level, for five years. The investigations against Mr HAVEN, a former member of the Executive Committee of the Football Caribbean Union (CFU), non-disclosure his concerned information related to cash payments at an event held by the CFU in May 2011.

On 6 May 2016, the adjudicatory chamber announced it had banned Mr Sergio JADUE, former Vice-President of CONMEBOL, former President of the Chilean FA and former member of the FIFA Associations Committee, and Mr Luis BEDOYA, former FIFA Executive Committee member, former Vice-President of CONMEBOL and former President of the Colombian FA, for life from all football-related activities. Their guilty pleas related to two schemes by means of which they asked for and received bribes from sports marketing