



FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

**DOMESTIC TRAINING COMPENSATION
REGULATIONS**

Effective from 1st May 2021

Domestic Training Compensation Regulations

ARTICLE 1. SCOPE, DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Commencement Date: 1st May 2021

The following terms and expressions shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the following meanings for the purpose of these Regulations.

Domestic Training Compensation: Payments due to Qualifying clubs to cover the development of young players during the Qualified Training years when a player is deemed Professional during the Qualifying Transfer years and when the player Transfers as a Professional within the Qualified Transfer years.

FAI: Football Association of Ireland

FAI Domestic Transfer Matching System: An Online electronic information system with the ability to administer and monitor all domestic transfers of players.

National League Club: Clubs in the National league registered with the FAI.

Professional: A professional is a player who has a written contract with a club and is paid more than the expenses he effectively incurs in return for his football activity.

Qualifying clubs: All of those clubs registered with the FAI which had previously trained the Professional beginning from the season of his 10th birthday.

Qualifying Training years: The period beginning from the season of the players 10th birthday and ending at the end of the season following the players 21st birthday.

Qualifying Transfer years: A transfer that takes place between the beginning of the season of the players 16th birthday and the end of the season following the players 23rd birthday.

Regulations: Domestic Training Compensation Regulations

SFAI: Schoolboys Football Association of Ireland

Term: Two-year period from 1 May 2021 – 30 April 2023

Transfer: As per the terms of Rule 24 of the National League Rules (Retention and Transfer of Players) which are contained in Schedule 2 of the FAI National League Participation Agreement or any amendments or modifications thereto.

Underage Committee: A Football Committee which acts as an advisory Committee to the FAI Board in accordance with its Terms of Reference.

Domestic Training Compensation Committee.

A sub-committee of the Underage Committee established to oversee the implementation of these Regulations.

- (a) Definitions not provided hereunder but contained in the FAI constitution, rules, regulations and codes, or the Statutes or Regulations of FIFA and UEFA are incorporated into these Regulations where appropriate.
- (b) Except where the context otherwise requires words denoting the singular include the plural and vi versa; words denoting any gender include all genders; words importing persons shall include bodies.
- (c) These Regulations are established in accordance with the FAI Constitution and Rules.
- (d) These Regulations may be amended by the Board of the FAI from time to time and before the end of the Term in consultation with the SFAI and the National League.

- (e) These Regulations may also be subject to changes in accordance with any changes to FIFA regulations and FAI rules or regulations in consultation with the SFAI and the National League.
- (f) For the avoidance of doubt, these Regulations come into effect on the Commencement Date and shall be reviewed for an extension no later than two years from the commencement date.
- (g) For the further avoidance of doubt, these Regulations shall only apply to a change of status of a player to Professional and to his subsequent international and domestic Transfers from the 1st day of May 2021.
- (h) These Regulations govern the system for Domestic Training Compensation payments, and subsequent international and domestic Transfers, where a Transfer agreement is in place for the Transfer of the Professional player and where such transfer takes place during the Qualifying Transfer years.
- (i) A National League club which changes the status of a player from amateur to Professional, within the Qualified Transfer years, shall trigger a payment to Qualifying Club(s) under these Regulations.
- (j) These Regulations are based on the FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players as follows;
‘Article 1.2 of the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players states:
‘The transfer of players between clubs belonging to the same Association is governed by specific regulations issued by the Association concerned in accordance with Article 1 par.3’ (of the FIFA Articles) ‘which must be approved by FIFA. Such Regulations shall lay down rules for the settlement of disputes between clubs and players, in accordance with the principles stipulated in the FIFA regulations. Such Regulations should also provide for a system to reward clubs investing in the training and education of young players’
- (k) Neither the FAI, the SFAI, nor the National League (or any similar entity) shall accrue any material or monetary benefit from these Regulations under any circumstances. The only payments made under these Regulations shall be to the relevant Qualifying clubs.
- (l) Entitlement to Domestic Training Compensation payment cannot be assigned to a third party. If Domestic Training Compensation is due, the club with which the Professional is registered shall be liable to the Qualifying club for its payment.
- (m) Agreements reached outside the scope of the requirements of these Regulations are permitted subject to both clubs in that particular agreement notifying the FAI as to that agreement within five working days of its conclusion and entering all respective agreement details in the FAI Domestic Transfer Matching System.

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

ARTICLE 2. DOMESTIC TRAINING COMPENSATION

- (a) Domestic Training Compensation shall be payable by the Professional’s new club to Qualifying clubs for training and education relating to players during the Qualified Training years between the ages of 10 years and 23 years in accordance with these Regulations.
- (b) Domestic Training Compensation shall be payable relating to players during the Qualified Training years for training incurred up to the age of twenty-one (21) years, unless it is evident that a player has already terminated his training period before the age of twenty one (21) years. In such a case, Domestic Training Compensation shall be payable until the end of the season in which the player reaches the age of twenty-three (23) years, but the calculation of the amount payable shall be based on the years between ten (10) years and the age when it is established that the player actually completed his training.

- (c) If a player between 16 -18 years is not offered a professional contract by his club, the club will not lose the entitlement to domestic training compensation.
- (d) The obligation to pay Domestic Training Compensation is without prejudice to any obligation to pay compensation for breach of contract.
- (e) In the interest of good relations it is fully expected that all National League clubs shall strictly abide by the limits on signing only the mandated numbers of players at each age committee.

ARTICLE 3. PAYMENT OF DOMESTIC TRAINING COMPENSATION

- (a) Domestic Training Compensation is due to be paid during the Qualifying Transfer Years when a player is registered for the first time as a Professional before the end of the season of his 23rd birthday and in all cases will apply whether the change of status to Professional is on a full or part-time basis.
- (b) The Domestic Training Compensation payment is due within 30 days of the player signing as a Professional and is calculated up to the end of the season of his 23rd birthday. The final season of this training may occur before the season in which the Professional player had his 21st birthday if it is established that the Professional player completed his training before that time.
- (c) Failure by any National League club to fully honour its Domestic Training Compensation financial obligations within the process and the 30-day period as specified in this Regulation, shall result in an incremental scale of fines being imposed on that club as follows:

Where payment is issued from day 31 to day 40 @ 10% of the monies involved

Where payment is issued from day 41 to day 50 @ 15% of the monies involved

Where payment is issued from day 51 to day 60 @ 20% of the monies involved

- (d) Failure to remit the Domestic Training Compensation due, and the fine, to the relevant Qualifying clubs, via the prescribed process, shall result in the matter being referred to the Domestic Compensation Oversight Committee which Committee shall mediate the matter in order to resolve any dispute amicably. All fine(s) shall be in addition to the payment of the original monies due and shall be remitted to the relevant Qualifying Clubs, via the prescribed process, on the pro rata basis pertaining to the original payment obligations.
- (e) If the matter cannot be resolved in accordance with Article 3.4 the matter shall be referred to the Disciplinary Control Unit.
- (f) Domestic Training Compensation is not due under any other circumstance other than as outlined in these Regulations.

ARTICLE 4. RESPONSUBULITY FOR PAYMENT OF DOMESTIC COMPENSATION

- (a) Domestic Training Compensation payments must be paid directly to a dedicated FAI bank account, in accordance with the procedure outlined in Appendix 1 or notified to the clubs accordingly. Payments made into this account shall only be released on the authority of the Domestic Compensation Oversight Committee as confirmed in writing by the Chairperson to the FAI Finance Director and shall be utilised for the onward remittance of relevant Domestic Training Compensation payments to Qualifying club/s in accordance with the player's verified previous registration records.
- (b) When a player is registering as a Professional for the first time, the club which is registering the player is responsible for paying Domestic Training Compensation to the Qualifying club(s) in accordance with the provisions laid down in Article 3 of these Regulations.
- (c) The amount payable is calculated on a pro rata basis according to the qualifying training years that the player spent with each Qualifying Club throughout the Qualifying Training years.
- (d) If a bona fide previous registration between the Professional and any Qualifying club/s that trained the player cannot be established, or if any of those clubs do not make themselves known within 18 months

of the player's first registration as a Professional, such percentage of this Domestic Training Compensation shall be applied for the benefit of under-age football development programmes in the FAI as recommended by the Domestic Compensation Oversight Committee and approved by the FAI Board.

- (e) Non-payment of Domestic Training Compensation Payments and/or associated fines over 30 days qualifies as an overdue payable under the Participation Agreement.

ARTICLE 5. DOMESTIC TRAINING COMPENSATION RATES

- (a) Qualifying clubs are entitled to Domestic Training Compensation commensurate with the season/s the Professional player was registered with that club/s as an amateur during the Qualified Training years.
- (b) Clubs shall be entitled to Domestic Training Compensation at the rates as follows:

Registered with Qualifying Club for:	Amounts Due	
	Premier Division	First Division
Season of Player's 10th Birthday	€350	€250
Season of Player's 11th Birthday	€350	€250
Season of Player's 12th Birthday	€400	€300
Season of Player's 13th Birthday	€400	€300
Season of Player's 14th Birthday	€400	€300
Season of Player's 15th Birthday	€450	€350
Season of Player's 16 th Birthday	€500	€400
Season of Player's 17th Birthday	€500	€400
Season of Player's 18th Birthday	€450	€350
Season of Player's 19th Birthday	€400	€300
Season of Player's 20th Birthday	€400	€300
Season of Player's 21st Birthday	€400	€300
Season of Player's 22nd Birthday	€350	€250
Season of Player's 23rd Birthday	€350	€250

ARTICLE 6. TRANSFER

- (a) The Domestic Training Compensation percentage amount due to Qualifying Training Clubs relating to Professionals covered under these Regulations who Transfer between Associations is as follows;

From Premier Division National League Clubs

Transferred within 12 (twelve) months of change of status – 30% of transfer fee.
 Transferred within 24 (twenty-four) months of change of status – 20% of transfer fee.
 Transferred within 36 (thirty-six) months of change of status – 12.5% of transfer fee.
 Transferred within 48 (forty-eight) months of change of status – 7.5% of transfer fee.

From First Division National League Clubs

Transferred within 12 (twelve) months of change of status – 20% of transfer fee.
 Transferred within 24 (twenty-four) months of change of status – 15% of transfer fee.
 Transferred within 36 (thirty-six) months of change of status – 10% of transfer fee.
 Transferred within 48 (forty-eight) months of change of status – 5% of transfer fee.

- (b) The Domestic Training Compensation percentage amount due to Qualifying Training Clubs relating to Professionals covered under these Regulations who Transfer between National League Clubs is as follows:

NATIONAL LEAGUE: PREMIER DIVISION CLUB TO PREMIER DIVISION CLUB

Transferred within 12 (twelve) months of change of status – 20% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 24 (twenty-four) months of change of status – 15% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 36 (thirty-six) months of change of status – 10% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 48 (forty-eight) months of change of status – 5% of transfer fee.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier Division Club To First Division Club

Transferred within 12 (twelve) months of change of status – 15% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 24 (twenty-four) months of change of status – 12.5% of transfer fee

Transferred within 36 (thirty-six) months of change of status – 10% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 48 (forty-eight) months of change of status – 5% of transfer fee.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: FIRST DIVISION CLUB TO PREMIER DIVISION CLUB

Transferred within 12 (twelve) months of change of status – 12.5% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 24 (twenty-four) months of change of status – 10% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 36 (thirty-six) months of change of status – 7.5% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 48 (forty-eight) months of change of status – 5% of transfer fee.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: FIRST DIVISION CLUB TO FIRST DIVISION CLUB

Transferred within 12 (twelve) months of change of status – 10% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 24 (twenty-four) months of change of status – 8% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 36 (thirty-six) months of change of status – 6% of transfer fee.

Transferred within 48 (forty-eight) months of change of status – 4% of transfer fee.

- (c) Where a player who has signed as an amateur to a National League club, and subsequently signs as a Professional, who then Transfers within the first 12 months following his initial signing to the National League club, shall result in the payment of 60% of the Domestic Training Compensation to be paid pro rata to all Qualifying Clubs.
- (d) For the avoidance of doubt all payments, where required, will be made on a pro rata basis to those Qualifying Clubs involved in the training of the Professional.
- (e) Accordingly, the first time a player is transferred as a Professional, the Domestic Training Compensation payable is calculated by dividing the sum applicable in accordance with this clause by the number of seasons spent training during the Qualifying Training years.
- (f) It is the responsibility of the National League Club signing the Professional, with the assistance of FAInet and all relevant bodies, to calculate the amount of the Domestic Training Compensation and to furnish the FAI with the player's career history together with approval to process the personal data of the Professional for the purposes of Domestic Training Compensation from his parent/guardian if he is still under the age of 18 years of age. A National League Club's signing of a player as a Professional must be notified, by the relevant National League club, to the Domestic Compensation Oversight Committee within 5 (five) days of that signing having taken place together with the appropriate data protection consent, if required.
- (g) All change of status registrations must be entered in the FAI Domestic Transfer Matching System. The entry must include amount of Domestic Training Compensation and payment schedule including the date the payment is due in accordance with the Regulations and date that the Domestic Training Compensation will be paid.

ARTICLE 7. DOMESTIC TRAINING COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

- (a) The Domestic Training Compensation Committee which will be a sub-Committee of the Underage Committee shall oversee the implementation of these Regulations while they are in operation.
- (b) The Domestic Training Compensation Committee shall consist of three persons (the Committee Members):
- **Independent Chairperson** – Nominated and appointed by the FAI Board who shall be a qualified Barrister or Solicitor who shall serve a two-year term.
 - **Schoolboy FAI Representative nominated by the SFAI**
 - **National League Representative nominated by the NLEC**

Before appointment each member must receive confirmation from the Electoral Committee that they satisfy the Integrity Assessment.

- (c) Committee Members will be required to:
- Sign a Declaration of Interest Form outlining any specific club interests they have that could potentially cause a conflict of interest.
 - Not partake or attend any part of a meeting in which the Committee are deliberating over a matter which he/she has or may be perceived to have a conflict of interest.
 - Where a Committee member has been excused on a conflict-of-interest basis the body which he/she represents shall be entitled to nominate a substitute representative for the duration of that conflicted business being dealt with.
 - Comply with any other requirement or direction of the FAI Board.
- (d) Committee Members will be appointed for a term of two years (“**Term**”) after which they may seek reappointment for a further 4 Terms.
- (e) The Domestic Training Compensation Committee shall have the following duties:
To ensure that these Regulations are being adhered to by the National League Clubs;

To monitor that the amount of Domestic Training Compensation due, in accordance with these Regulations, has been lodged in the dedicated FAI bank account by the National League club in relation to the Professional Player.

To confirm that the lodged funds, due to the Qualifying club/s, is in order.

To authorise the release of all payments received under the terms of these Regulations to the Qualifying Clubs. All such payments must be communicated in writing to the FAI Finance Director by the Chairperson. A record of all such instructions to make payment must be kept by the Domestic Compensation Oversight Committee and be available for review.

To ensure that each Qualifying Club receives the Domestic Training Compensation due to it in accordance with these Regulations;

To identify and attempt to resolve potential problems in any area covered by these Regulations before they become intractable.

To refer any dispute that cannot be resolved to the Disciplinary Control Unit in circumstances where the Committee are of the view that there is a breach of these Regulations. Any such referral should be accompanied by a full report outlining the breach and any supporting evidential documentation.

- (f) The Domestic Training Compensation Committee shall have the following right. To be furnished with all documentation, registration records and information as may be required for the implementation of these Regulations together with data protection consent for the processing of personal data from parents/guardians, where required from all relevant schoolboy leagues and their relevant clubs

To receive evidence of payments in and payments out of the dedicated FAI bank account ahead of each meeting of the Committee.

To be provided with sufficient executive support from the FAI to carry out its duties

- (g) The Domestic Training Compensation Committee shall meet as required and a minimum of twice per annum and all members or their substitutes must be present to form a quorum.
- (h) The Committee shall appoint one of its members as Secretary who is responsible for keeping minutes of all minutes and resolutions of the committee.
- (i) The Chair of the Committee will prepare and circulate the Agenda for the meeting.
- (j) Notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time and date together with the Agenda, minutes of the previous meeting, actions log and relevant papers should be circulated to the Committee members and to any other person required to attend, not less than five working days before the meeting.
- (k) The FAI Disciplinary Committee shall not hear any case subject to these Regulations if more than two years have elapsed since the event giving rise to the dispute.
- (l) The Domestic Training Compensation Committee shall provide a report of their work to the Underage Committee bi-annually which in turn will provide a copy to the Board.

APPENDIX 1: PROCEDURE FOR PAYMENTS INTO AND OUT OF FAI BANK ACCOUNT

- (a) The Domestic Training Compensation payment due to the Qualifying clubs under the terms of these Regulations shall be transferred into the dedicated FAI bank account by the National League club within the timeframe set out in these Regulations.
- (b) The Domestic Training Compensation Committee shall monitor that the amount of Domestic Training Compensation due, in accordance with these Regulations, has been lodged in the dedicated FAI bank account by the National League club in relation to the Professional Player.
- (c) The Domestic Training Compensation Committee shall satisfy itself that the lodged funds, due to the Qualifying club/s, is in order.
- (d) The payment to the relevant Qualifying clubs from the FAI dedicated bank account shall be authorised in writing by the Domestic Training Compensation Committee and shall be effected by bank transfer by the Finance Department of the FAI once the instruction is received.
- (e) The National League Club will receive confirmation from the Domestic Training Compensation Committee that payment has been made to include details of the amount paid to each Qualifying Club.