

To all national football associations and confederations

Circular no. 12

Zurich, 7 March 2018
SEC/2018-C215/bru

Important information about Video Assistant Referees (VARs)

This circular contains important information relating to Video Assistant Referees (VARs) following the 132nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The International FA Board (The IFAB) held at the Home of FIFA in Zurich on Saturday, 3 March 2018 (a further circular will follow relating to all decisions taken at the AGM).

The AGM, chaired by FIFA President Gianni Infantino, **unanimously approved** the use of VARs in association football **as an option for competitions**, with appropriate references to VARs to be included in the Laws of the Game 2018/19.

This decision was based on comprehensive feedback and the independent analysis of data from a two-year experiment with VARs in a number of countries and competitions (for more information on the experiment and participants please visit theifab.com).

Given the complexities involved in implementing VARs, the AGM also approved the **mandatory VAR Implementation Assistance & Approval Programme (IAAP)**, the process and specific requirements that every competition must in future fulfil to be given permission from The IFAB and FIFA to use VARs in live competitive matches.

Consequently, to help competitions understand how to prepare for the implementation of VARs and fulfil the mandatory requirements as set forth in the above-mentioned IAAP, **The IFAB and FIFA are organising a VAR workshop in London (27-29 March 2018)**.

It is strongly recommended that competitions which might be considering using VARs in the future, as well as competitions already using VARs, attend this event (more details about the workshop can be found in the enclosure).

Should you wish to send a delegation to this workshop and given the proximity of the event, we kindly ask you to register (<https://goo.gl/forms/AtQ8N6DWUbdiggbv1>) by **Monday, 12 March 2018**. This will help us to plan for and make the necessary arrangements on site.

Thank you for your attention and in advance for your feedback.

Yours sincerely,

Lukas Brud
Secretary of The IFAB



Encl. as mentioned



VAR workshop – London, 27-29 March 2018

This important VAR workshop is designed specifically for VAR project leaders and those responsible for VAR & referee training and education as well as VAR technology & broadcasting. The main aim of the workshop is to enable confederations, national football associations or competitions (including leagues) to understand the many and complex requirements for a successful VAR implementation.

Presentations will be given by The IFAB, FIFA and some of the competitions most closely involved in the two-year VAR experiment.

Programme (draft)

27 March

10:00-13:00	Details on IAAP and first important considerations
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	Visit to Video Operation Room (VOR) at Wembley Stadium
15:30-18:00	VAR protocol, including principles and practicalities
18:00-19:00	Dinner
19:45-22:45	International friendly: England v. Italy at Wembley Stadium

28 March

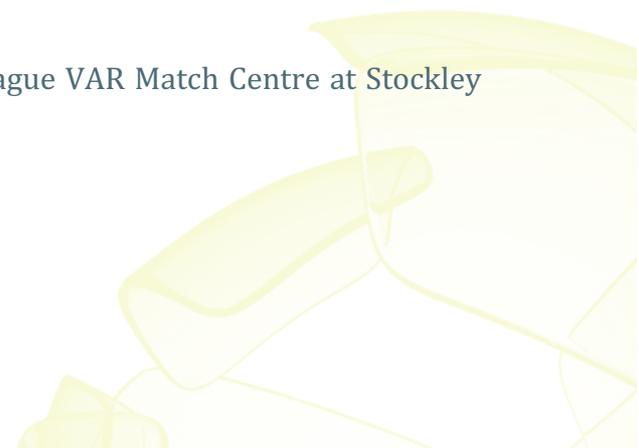
09:00-10:30	Main aspects and experiences using VARs, including feedback from German refereeing team officiating ENG – ITA (previous night)
10:30-13:00	VAR and referee education and training
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	Technology setup, infrastructure and quality programme
16:00-18:00	Project management, planning and importance of communication

End of workshop (main part)

19:00-22:00	Dinner
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29 March

09:30-11:30	Optional visit to the Premier League VAR Match Centre at Stockley Park
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Registration

To register for the VAR workshop in London, please fill the form in the link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/AtQ8N6DWUbdiggbv1>

Once you are registered, we will provide you with all relevant information, such as accommodation etc. Please note that we have reserved a limited number of rooms at a special rate at the Wembley Hilton Hotel (walking distance from stadium), available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Group transportation on site, meeting facilities, match tickets and F&B will be provided for all delegates. Any costs related to travel and accommodation are the responsibility of the delegates.

