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To: **All Clubs
Leagues
Area Associations**

Cc: **FAW Council**

Tuesday, 13 April 2021

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Reopening of the 2020-21 Amateur Registration Period

The Football Association of Wales ("FAW") is pleased to confirm that the National Leagues Board, within its absolute discretion, has agreed to temporarily reopen the 2020-21 Amateur Registration Period as follows:

- i. The Amateur Registration Period will reopen at 00:01 on Wednesday 14th April 2021 and will close at 17:00 on Thursday 29th April 2021. Any submissions via FAW COMET outside of this period and/or which do not comply with [FAW Rules and/or Regulations](#) will be returned to the club;
- ii. The reopening will be limited to Amateur Players in Academic Year 13 or below only (i.e., those born on or after 1st September 2002). Any submissions for players who do not fall within the scope of this age range will be returned to the club;
- iii. Such registered Players are restricted to participating in mini, junior and youth football only for the remainder of the 2020-21 Season as this corresponds to the football currently permitted within Welsh Government guidelines (i.e., the recent return of organised outdoor activities and sport for children aged under 18); and
- iv. Welsh Premier Women's League Clubs are prohibited from registering any Players to ensure that the sporting integrity of that ongoing competition is adequately protected.

In making its decision the National Leagues Board has carefully considered the exceptional circumstances of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the current Welsh Government guidelines and the sporting integrity of ongoing competitions. In addition, at the forefront of its decision making was ensuring that children can register and participate safely and in accordance with the FAW Rules and/or Regulations. It is deemed that reopening, under the short period and caveats defined above would be appropriate and provide ample opportunity for Clubs to register certain players who may have missed out due to the earlier closure.

Clubs intending to register Players will be required to Submit a new registration form via FAW COMET in accordance with FAW Rules and/or Regulations. Registration forms should not be dated before 14th April 2021 and in any event must be Submitted within five Business Days of the date of signature. Any Clubs who have had registrations returned to them in recent weeks due to the Amateur Registration Period being closed are required to also Submit a new registration form for each player.



Clubs seeking to register any minor player, defined as those aged under 18 by [FIFA](#), who would require an international transfer are encouraged to contact the Player Registrations Department via the details below as further information and documentation will be required to facilitate the registration with your club.

For clarity, the Amateur Registration Period applies for Amateur Players seeking to register in Amateur Competitions. Its 2020-21 reopening does therefore not apply to Cymru Premier and Cymru North / South Clubs who participate in Professional Competitions and are therefore subject to the Professional Registration Periods which remain closed. Clubs in the Cymru Premier and Cymru North / South will however be permitted to resume registering players (including Trialists) in Academic Years 1 to 11 for their respective Academies and/or junior teams (if applicable) only.

Please recall that in accordance with the [FAW COMET Regulations](#), players in the Academic Year of their sixteenth birthday (i.e., those in Academic Year 11) and all players under a Temporary Eligibility, will remain registered with a Club until 31st May 2021. Any other Amateur Player will remain registered until such time as that registration is Terminated or they are transferred to a different club.

To ensure consistency with player registration fees already applied during 2020-21 Season, each player registered during the reopened 2020-21 Amateur Registration Period as set out above will incur the following charges:

- a) Those aged sixteen years old and over on the date of registration will incur a fee of £10.00;
- b) Those age fifteen years and younger on the date of registration will incur a fee of £5.00; and
- c) For those players registered via a Temporary Eligibility, no fees will be payable.

Please note that players who remain registered on FAW COMET when the 2021-22 Professional and Amateur Registration Periods open on 9th June 2021, will not be charged a player registration fee for the 2021-22 season provided they stay with the same club.

Clubs are encouraged to make use of the temporarily reopened Amateur Registration Period to ensure that players permitted are duly registered. It is important to note that a player needs to be registered with a Club to participate in both Official Matches and Open Friendly Matches and that unregistered players are ineligible. In addition, by registering players benefit from the FAW insurance policy.

Thank you for taking careful note of the above.

Should you have any questions, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,



Aron Hughes
Player Registrations Manager
Football Association of Wales

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