

4 March 2021

**To OFC Executive Committee**  
**To OFC Member Associations**

## **OFC Competitions Calendar 2021 - Update**

Following the OFC Executive Committee Meeting held on 3 March 2021, the Oceania Football Confederation [OFC] is writing to provide you with an update to the OFC Competitions Calendar for 2021.

The restrictions on international travel continue to have a significant impact on the organisation of international competitions within our confederation. With widespread border restrictions and reduced commercial airline schedules, the OFC Executive Committee has taken the following decisions in relation to the OFC Competitions in 2021:

### **1. FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 Qualifiers**

- a. The OFC Qualifiers for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022, originally scheduled during International Match Calendar dates in May/June, August/September, October and November, are to be rescheduled.
- b. The travel restrictions prevent the current competition format to be completed in the available FIFA International Match Calendar dates prior to March 2022. The preferred option is to organise a competition in January 2022, keeping the FIFA International Match Calendar dates of 21-29 March available for preparation matches ahead of the Intercontinental Playoff taking place in June 2022. The OFC General Secretariat will partner with the potential Host Associations (NZF and FFA) to continue negotiations with the respective government authorities and ascertain which countries can safely host international matches in accordance with FIFA's International Match Protocols.

### **2. OFC Champions League 2021**

The postponement of the OFC Champions League 2021 will continue, with a new deadline to complete the competition no later than 31 October 2021. The OFC Executive Committee mandated the General Secretariat to investigate various options, including the possibility of a single, centralised tournament to take place in Fiji in October 2021. The OFC Competitions Department will now work on these options and collaborate with the Fiji Football Association and the Fiji government.

### **3. OFC U-20 Championship 2021 and OFC U-17 Championship 2021**

Following FIFA's decision to cancel the FIFA U-20 World Indonesia 2021 and the FIFA U-17 World Cup Peru 2021 (see OFC Circular dated 18 January 2021), it was hoped that OFC would be able to reschedule these competitions. Unfortunately, both competitions must be cancelled. However, so that OFC continues to support player development opportunities, the OFC Youth Development Tournament and OFC U-15 Centre of Excellence Tournaments are maintained within the calendar and we remain optimistic of these tournaments taking place in late 2021.

### **OFC U-19 Women's Championship 2021 and OFC U-16 Women's Championship 2021**

Both competitions are postponed, awaiting FIFA's confirmation of dates for the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup 2022 and the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup 2022. The new competition dates will be proposed once confirmation is received from FIFA.

#### **4. OFC Futsal Invitational 2021**

The competition is rescheduled to 2022. The new date will be confirmed as soon as possible but is anticipated to be played during September 2022.

#### **5. OFC Beach Soccer Nations Cup 2021**

The competition is postponed. A new date will be considered after consultation with FIFA has taken place.

#### **6. OFC Women's Nations Cup 2022**

The competition is rescheduled to take place within the FIFA Women's International Match Calendar Blocked Period of 27 June – 31 July 2022. OFC Competitions is currently in contact with FIFA to finalise the format and date options and this will be communicated as soon as it is approved by the OFC Executive Committee.

The updated OFC Competitions calendar for 2021 is attached in the email containing this circular, with the competitions with change of status highlighted with an asterisk (\*).

Should you require any clarification on the above points, please do not hesitate to contact the OFC Competitions Department.

Yours faithfully,  
Oceania Football Confederation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Franck Castillo', with a stylized, sweeping flourish extending from the bottom right.

Franck Castillo  
General Secretary

Encl. Updated OFC Competitions Calendar for 2021