



UNITED WORLD
WRESTLING

REGULATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRANSFERS IN INTERCLUB COMPETITIONS



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Article 1 - General Principles

- 1.1 An international transfer is defined as the authorization granted by United World Wrestling (hereinafter “UWW”) to a wrestler who is member of a UWW affiliated or associated National Federation to compete temporarily in a club competition in the territory of another UWW affiliated or associated National Federation.
- 1.2 All International Transfers must be authorized by UWW.
- 1.3 The present *UWW Regulations for International Transfers in Interclub Competitions (hereinafter “the Transfer Rules”)* provide the framework and the conditions for the authorization of international transfers as well as the rights and the obligations of all parties concerned.

Article 2 - Field of application

- 2.1 The Transfer Rules apply to all National Federations affiliated or associated to UWW as well as to their affiliated clubs and to the concerned wrestlers.
- 2.2 The Transfer Rules do not apply to participation to individual competitions (as opposed to competitions between clubs).
- 2.3 An international transfer of wrestler is possible only between wrestling clubs’ members of National Federations affiliated or associated to UWW. The concerned National Federations must take part in the transfer procedure.
- 2.4 International transfers to clubs which are not members of a national Federation or participation to club competitions which are not approved by the concerned National Federation shall not be authorised by the clubs and National Federations of the concerned licensed wrestlers.
- 2.5 Licensed wrestlers may not take part to club competitions within the territory of another National Federation unless they have been duly transferred in application of the present Transfer Rules.
- 2.6 Wrestlers, clubs and National Federations participating to International Transfers which are not duly authorised in application of the Transfer Rules and/or participating as wrestlers or allowing the participation of wrestlers to foreign competitions which are not approved by the National Federation of the concerned country are subject to disciplinary proceedings and sanctions in application of the Disciplinary Procedure & Dispute Resolution Regulations.

Article 3 - Competence

- 3.1 The UWW Executive Committee is competent to decide on applications for international transfers and, subject to disciplinary sanctions pursuant to Article 2 above, on any issues arising in connection with the application the present Transfer Rules.
- 3.2 On decision of the UWW Bureau, the competence of the UWW Executive Committee may be delegated to the concerned Continental Council for international transfers within their respective territories. In such case, the applications shall be addressed to the concerned Continental Council which shall also be entitled to receive the corresponding transfer fees.
- 3.3 The Continental Councils shall ensure strict observance and effective implementation of the present Transfer Rules.
- 3.4 Continental Councils shall report to UWW at the end of every calendar year on all transfers and fees received and on the implementation of the present Transfer Rules.

Article 4 - Parties

- 4.1 The parties involved in the application for an international transfer are:
- a) The applying wrestler;
 - b) The wrestler's club of origin (hereinafter "the Club of Origin");
 - c) The National Federation to which the Club of Origin is affiliated;
 - d) The applying club which receives the internationally transferred wrestler (hereinafter "the Receiving Club");
 - e) The National Federation to which the Receiving Club is affiliated.
- 4.2 International transfer authorizations may only be granted to Senior, U23 and U20 age categories wrestlers¹.
- 4.3 The status of the applicant wrestler must comply with all requirements of UWW's Constitution and Regulations as well as the regulations of the concerned National Federations (i.e. National Federations to which the Club of Origin and the Receiving Club are affiliated).
- 4.4 A wrestler participating to club competitions on the territory of foreign National Federations is considered as a national or international level wrestler.
- 4.5 A wrestler who lives in the country of the host club and who has had a resident status for more than twelve (12) months may be granted an authorization of international transfer within the framework of the present Transfer Rules without requesting the permission from his/her National Federation and from the club of his/her country of origin. The other requirements provided by the present Transfer Rules remain applicable.
- 4.6 No formal authorization by the UWW or the Continental Council is required, and no transfer fee is payable for a wrestler who has been living and working in the country of the host club for more than six (6) years. The other requirements set forth in the present Transfer Rules remain applicable.

Article 5 - Administration of transfers

- 5.1 Authorization for international transfers must be applied for to the UWW Executive Committee or, if applicable, to the authorized Continental Council.
- 5.2 All documents and procedures for an international transfer are reviewed by the UWW Executive Committee or, if applicable, by the authorized Continental Council.
- 5.3 The authorization for an international transfer is granted by the UWW Executive Committee or, if applicable, by the authorized Continental Council.
- 5.4 Unless decided otherwise by the UWW Executive Committee, applications for international transfers must be submitted between 1st January and 30th November.
- 5.5 The following shall be provided in support of an international transfer application:
- a) The wrestler's request indicating his nationality, age, Club of Origin, National Federation of the Club of Origin, sporting results at national and international level, as well as the Receiving Club and the National Federation to which it is affiliated.

¹ Example: 2025 = 17 years or older = born 2008 or before.

- b) A copy of the wrestler's passport.
 - c) The international transfer certificate issued to the wrestler by the original National Federation.
 - d) Payment of the transfer fee, as set forth in Article 6 to the UWW or to the Continental Council (if UWW has delegated his competence to the Continental Council concerned) by the National Federation of the Receiving Club.
- 5.6 The UWW Executive Committee, or the competent Continental Council reviews the document and, if found conform, issue the international transfer Authorization. The Transfer Authorization is notified to the National Federation of the Receiving Club. It is only valid until December 31 of the current year. For league competitions that extend beyond the turn of the year, the transfer permit remains valid until March 1 of the following year.
- 5.7 Any internationally transferred wrestler must be entered on the lists of internationally transferred wrestlers established by the UWW or the Continental Councils. These lists shall be available to all the National Federations.

Article 6 - Transfer fees

- 6.1 The following transfer fees are applicable:
- a) For an Olympic or Senior/U23 World medallist: 2.500 Swiss Francs
 - b) For a Continental (Senior/U23) or U20 World medallist: 2.000 Swiss Francs
 - c) For an international level wrestler: 1.500 Swiss Francs
 - d) For a national level wrestler: 750 Swiss francs
- 6.2 The relevant status will be the highest one achieved by the concerned wrestler during the four (4) years preceding the date of the application².
- 6.3 25 % (twenty-five per cent) of the amount of the applicable fees shall be granted by the UWW or the Continental Council to the original National Federation of the wrestler as a compensation for training expenses. The balance shall be transferred to a special fund meant to finance the creation and running of regional centres and the running of the Continental Councils.

Article 7 - Scope of validity of a transfer authorization

- 7.1 A wrestler internationally transferred in accordance with the present Transfer Rules may compete only for the Receiving Club as a reinforcement foreign wrestler for the specific competition for which he/she was internationally transferred.
- 7.2 A wrestler may only take part in club competitions within the framework of national championships and international interclub competitions, championships, tournaments, meetings, etc, organised and/or sanctioned by the concerned National Federation.
- 7.3 An internationally transferred foreign wrestler may compete for the Receiving Club in national and international club championships by team, club tournaments and meetings of all kind. The transfer authorization is valid only for the designated club competition and for the duration of that competition.
- 7.4 A wrestler may be granted a transfer authorization only once per calendar year.
- 7.5 A wrestler cannot be internationally transferred simultaneously in two different clubs.

² Example: 2025 = results from 2021 up to the date of application.

- 7.6 A club cannot participate in international interclub competitions with more than two internationally transferred wrestlers.

Article 8 - Availability of Wrestlers for national federations' representation matches

- 8.1 A wrestler who has been internationally transferred has the duty and the right to participate in the individual championship of his/her National Federation of origin.

Wrestlers have the obligation to accept requests to compete on behalf of teams of their original National Federation.

This availability applies to following competitions:

- a) Maximum eight international matches per year
- b) For World Cups, World and Continental Championships, Olympic Games and Regional Games

Availability includes a preparation period defined as follows:

- a) For a friendly international match: 48 hours
- b) For World Cups, World Championships and Continental Championships: 15 days
- c) For Olympic Games and Regional Games: one month

In any event, the wrestler must arrive at the competition venue Federation at least 48 hours before the beginning of the competition.

- 8.2 In regard of friendly international matches, the clubs and National Federations concerned may agree to different arrangements. In the event of World Cups, World Championships, Continental Championships, Olympic Games and Regional Games, they may only agree on a longer period of availability. If such agreements are already in place when a wrestler is internationally transferred, they must be mentioned in the international transfer certificate.
- 8.3 A wrestler who invokes medical reasons (injury or illness) not to accept a request of his/her National Federation may be required to undergo a medical examination carried out by a doctor, chosen by the National Federation.
- 8.4 A wrestler required to represent his original National Federation in one of its teams, and who does not accept the invitation for any reason may in no event compete with his receiving club during the periods mentioned hereunder.
- 8.5 A club which makes one of its wrestlers available according to the foregoing does not have the right to any financial compensation. Such can however be agreed as part of an agreement providing for longer periods.
- 8.6 The National Federation which require the availability of wrestlers must pay their transport and shall be in charge of the corresponding insurances.
- 8.7 Any club which, in violation of the requirements above, refuses to make available a wrestler regularly called by his/her National Federation is subject to disciplinary proceedings and sanctions in application of the Disciplinary Procedure & Dispute Resolution Regulations.

Article 9 - Contract between the parties

- 9.1 Any contract or agreement signed between any of the parties must comply with the present Transfer Rules.

- 9.2 All engagements of internationally transferred wrestler in competitions determined by his/her Club of Origin and the Receiving Club must compulsorily be listed in the transfer contract and confirmed by the National Federations concerned.
- 9.3 Upon request by the UWW Executive Committee, the transfer contract must be submitted to the UWW Executive Committee or the competent Continental Council for review.
- 9.4 Before starting negotiations to engage a "foreign" wrestler, the interested Receiving Club and its National Federation must inform, in writing, the Club of Origin and its National Federation of their intention. Following the signing of the contract, and if there is an agreement in writing from the wrestler, the Receiving Club and its National Federation have the right to demand and receive from the Club of Origin the international transfer certificate (release letter). A copy of this request must be sent to the Continental Council.
- 9.5 Any contact be it direct or indirect, oral or in writing, with a wrestler which does not respect the above requirement is subject to disciplinary sanctions against the concerned Receiving Club and Federation and to the refusal of the authorization of the corresponding transfer.
- 9.6 The Receiving Club or its National Federation must provide the internationally transferred wrestler with health and accident insurance coverage effective during the transfer period concerned.
- 9.7 The international transfer conditions of a wrestler shall be set out in the transfer agreement, which shall be signed by the wrestler, both the Club of Origin and the Receiving Club and also both their respective National Federations.
- 9.8 When a wrestler and his Club of Origin signs a contract with a Receiving Club, the Club of Origin is entitled to receive a compensation to be agreed upon between the two clubs, if the wrestler is still bound by contract to his/her original club for the period during which the international transfer shall be effective.
- 9.9 This compensation shall be apportioned as provided for in the regulations of the wrestler's National Federation of origin.
- 9.10 The signed agreement between the two clubs must be disclosed to both National Federations.

Article 10 - Annulment

- 10.1 The Transfer Authority may annul an Internal Transfer authorization in the following circumstances:
 - a) a material violation of the transfer agreement signed by the clubs and the National Federations concerned;
 - b) the content of the documents, which have been provided in support of the transfer application is incorrect;
 - c) there is a written agreement between the wrestler, the clubs and the National Federations concerned to annul the transfer;
 - d) any other violation of the present Transfer Rules.

Article 11 - Obligations of the receiving National Federations

- 11.1 National Federations shall check that internationally transferred wrestlers participating in competitions on its territory are in compliance with all the requirements set out in the Transfer Rules. They shall intervene against the concerned clubs by reporting any irregularities to the UWW Executive Committee, which shall consider further actions including referral to disciplinary proceedings against the concerned National Federation, club(s), wrestler(s).

- 11.2 In the event one or several wrestlers are participating in a transregional club competition without having obtained beforehand a transfer authorization, the National Federation and the club concerned may be imposed a fine up to 10.000 Swiss Francs or a suspension from the participation in international competitions. Such sanctions shall be determined in proceedings conducted in application of the Disciplinary Procedure & Dispute Resolution Regulations. They are without prejudice to other sanctions, which might be applicable pursuant to the general provisions of such regulations.

Article 12 - Disputes

- 12.1 Subject to disciplinary issues and sanctions, which are to be addressed in application of the Disciplinary Procedure & Dispute Resolution Regulations, any issues regarding the application of these Transfer Rules shall be submitted to the UWW Executive Committee for decision of first instance. The Executive Committee may delegate such decision to the chairman of the UWW Disciplinary Chamber.
- 12.2 Any decision made by the UWW Executive Committee (or the UWW Disciplinary Chamber) may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of sports-related arbitration. The time limit for appeal is twenty-one days after the reception of the decision concerning the appeal.
- 12.3 For the avoidance of doubt, it is clarified that financial disputes between the National Federations, the clubs and/or the wrestlers linked with the performance of reciprocal financial obligations between these parties in connection with international transfers (notably claims arising out of transfer agreements or agreement between clubs or clubs and wrestlers) shall not be submitted to the UWW Executive Committee.
- 12.4 The National Federations, clubs and wrestlers expressly accept that any such dispute shall be submitted exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, and resolved definitively in accordance with the Code of sports-related arbitration. The panel shall consist in one single arbitrator.

Article 13 - Final provisions

- 13.1 These Transfer Rules are issued in English.

The present version of the *Regulations for International Transfers in Interclub Competitions* have been adopted by the UWW Bureau on 4 February 2025 and into force immediately.
The previous version was adopted on 14 November 2017.