

April 16th, 2025

Urgent Need of Confirmation of Independent Press Arrangements, FIFA Club World Cup

I write this Open Letter in the belief that FIFA recognises the value of the News Media in helping to increase visibility of FIFA events specifically and football generally across the world. Before, during and after tournaments, newsgatherers and their newsrooms independently inform fans and the wider public about games, player performance – as well as the organisation behind such mass-interest events.

On behalf of all Members, we invite FIFA to confirm as a matter of urgency that the status quo will exist for the Club World Cup – the same number of photographic positions, with the usual vantage points and freedom to showcase football to the world.

News publishers and news agencies invest significantly in putting their own teams of specialists together. The bigger the event, the bigger the challenge in planning and resourcing coverage of an upcoming tournament, its sporting outcomes and social legacies.

The News Media meet those challenges based on experience of how their needs are accommodated from one tournament to the next – and the willingness of event owners such as FIFA and organisers to collaborate with the News Media sector on newsgathering opportunities at an event and related logistics.

It is regrettable - that our Members – highly-reputable news organisations operating across the globe and in all football-loving nations – have been unable to progress many of their plans for coverage of the 2025 Club World Cup in the United States because of an absence of meaningful information from FIFA. This is particularly the case regarding professional independent news and sport photography which works alongside text reports and video journalism to drive public interest through engaging and educative news.

At this point in the sports calendar – with just 60 days to go before the FIFA Club World Cup kick-off – newsrooms should have received confirmation that previous photographic positions within stadia would be in place again. This ordinarily enables news agencies to notify the thousands of users of their editorial content including news publishers world-wide about what to expect and also enables publishers to confirm their own plans for newsgathering and distribution of news coverage to fans.

This Open Letter – shared within the news community and beyond - seeks to help fill that gap.

Given the urgency of the situation would you please provide confirmation as indicated by end of business Tuesday April 22nd.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Moger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Moger

NMC Chief Executive

On Behalf of the NMC Board and Members

E: andy@newsmediacoalition.org

W: newsmediacoalition.org