



**To European National Federations
To EuroLeague Women and EuroCup Women Clubs 2018/2019**

Dear Friends,

At its recent meeting in Rottach-Egern - Germany, the Board of FIBA Europe decided to accept the proposal submitted by the Competitions Commission and the Legal Commission of FIBA Europe to modify the Eligibility rules for EuroLeague Women ("ELW") & EuroCup Women ("ECW") for the season 2019/2020.

You will find below the amended provisions concerning Eligibility for ELW and ECW that will replace Art. 16 of the ELW's current regulations and Art. 20 of the ECW's current regulations:

EuroLeague Women:

16.1 *The principle of free circulation within FIBA Europe applies to the European Club Competitions for nationals from Countries belonging to the European Zone.*

16.2 *Each club participating in the EuroLeague Women may register an unlimited number of players who:*

16.2.1 *Have only the Legal Nationality of a Country or Countries belonging the European Zone; or*

16.2.2 *Have or had the legal nationality of a Country that does not belong to the European Zone and have acquired the legal nationality of a Country belonging to the European Zone by naturalisation or by any other means before having reached the age of sixteen (16). For the sake of clarity and for the purpose of this article (and art. 16.4), it is considered that a player acquires a legal nationality only when she claims such right, regardless if the player has the right to acquire a second nationality at birth or is legally considered having acquired it retroactively by birth when she claims it.*

16.3 *Each club participating in the EuroLeague Women may register a maximum of:*

16.3.1 **two (2) players** *who do not have the Legal Nationality of a Country belonging to the European Zone.*

16.3.2 **one (1) additional player** *who has or had the Legal Nationality of a Country that does not belong to the European Zone and has acquired the Legal Nationality of a Country belonging to the European Zone by naturalisation or by any other means after having reached the age of sixteen (16).*

For the sake of clarity, the limited amount of two foreign players provided under art. 16.3.1 can apply mutatis mutandis for players naturalized after 16 as per art. 16.3.2.

As a result, the three following options of registration shall be authorized for the clubs:

1	NON-European	NON-European	Naturalized after 16
2	NON-European	Naturalized after 16	Naturalized after 16
3	Naturalized after 16	Naturalized after 16	Naturalized after 16

16.4 *These provisions on eligibility do not apply retroactively. Therefore, any player that has been registered without any restriction under the previous regulations (not part of the quotas) shall maintain such status.*

16.5. *Once a player is registered for the current basketball season, no change of the player's national status for European Club Competitions purposes shall be permitted in the course of that season. This provision*

applies irrespective of the player acquiring a new legal nationality during this period (i.e the national status of a player as indicated at the time of her initial registration at the beginning [or in the course] of the respective season remains unchanged until the end of the season).

EuroCup Women:

20.1 The principle of free circulation within FIBA Europe applies to the European Club Competitions for nationals from Countries belonging to the European Zone.

20.2 Each club participating in the EuroCup Women may register an unlimited number of players who:

20.2.1 Have only the Legal Nationality of a Country or Countries belonging the European Zone; or

20.2.2 Have or had the legal nationality of a Country that does not belong to the European Zone and have acquired the legal nationality of a Country belonging to the European Zone by naturalisation or by any other means before having reached the age of sixteen (16). For the sake of clarity and for the purpose of this article (and art. 20.4), it is considered that a player acquires a legal nationality only when she claims such right, regardless if the player has the right to acquire a second nationality at birth or is legally considered having acquired it retroactively by birth when she claims it.

20.3 Each club participating in the EuroCup Women may register a maximum of:

20.3.1 two (2) players who do not have the Legal Nationality of a Country belonging to the European Zone.

20.3.2 one (1) additional player who has or had the Legal Nationality of a Country that does not belong to the European Zone and has acquired the Legal Nationality of a Country belonging to the European Zone by naturalisation or by any other means after having reached the age of sixteen (16).

For the sake of clarity, the limited amount of two foreign players provided under art. 20.3.1 can apply mutatis mutandis for players naturalized after 16 as per art. 20.3.2.

As a result, the three following options of registration shall be authorized for the clubs:

1	NON-European	NON-European	Naturalized after 16
2	NON-European	Naturalized after 16	Naturalized after 16
3	Naturalized after 16	Naturalized after 16	Naturalized after 16

20.4 These provisions on eligibility do not apply retroactively. Therefore, any player that has been registered without any restriction under the previous regulations (not part of the quotas) shall maintain such status.

20.5. Once a player is registered for the current basketball season, no change of the player’s national status for European Club Competitions purposes shall be permitted in the course of that season. This provision applies irrespective of the player acquiring a new legal nationality during this period (i.e the national status of a player as indicated at the time of her initial registration at the beginning [or in the course] of the respective season remains unchanged until the end of the season).”

We would like to underline that, according to the new art. 16.4 (ELW) and 20.4 (ECW), all players registered previously with a European status for ECW or ELW (i.e. players registered without limitations, allowing a club to register an unlimited number of them), under the previous regulations, will maintain the right to be registered without limitation (Art. 16.2 ELW and 20.2 ECW).

In light of the regulations in force this season [Art. 16.4 of ELW regulations 2018/2019 and 20.4 of ECW regulations 2018/2019] providing that *“Once a player is registered for the current basketball season, no change of the player’s national status for European Club Competitions purposes shall be permitted in the course of that season”*, we further inform you that any pending request for obtaining the European status, submitted to FIBA **before** the publication of the present circular, will be reviewed **under the current regulations 2018/2019**.

Any request for obtaining the European status submitted **after** the publication will be reviewed **under the new regulations 2019/2020**, which will be published in full in May 2019.

Please note that this circular is also available for download here:

<http://www.fiba.basketball/europe/downloads>

<http://www.fiba.basketball/euroleaguewomen/18-19/downloads>

<http://www.fiba.basketball/eurocupwomen/18-19/downloads>

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,



Kamil Novak
FIBA Executive Director Europe

18th March 2019