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Gesendet: Freitag, 1. November 2024 09:22
An: monique.schmitt@swiss-baseball.ch
Cc: dagmar.voith@swiss-baseball.ch; mark.cole@swiss-baseball.ch; Marco Ienna; Victor Isola
Betreff: Athlete Transfer Rules

Dear Mrs Schmitt,

I hope you're doing well,

I understand that you have some questions regarding the new Athlete Transfer Rules.

Regarding USA Softball: Yes, if a Swiss club recruits a softball player from the USA, the Athlete Transfer Rules (ATR) shall apply. You mentioned that the athlete is in high school—are they a minor? If so, the ATR will not apply until they reach the age of majority (18). If they are 18 or older and still in high school, the ATR will apply on a case-by-case basis, depending on whether they are also registered with USA Softball. If they are registered with USA Softball, the ATR will apply; if they are not, the ATR will not apply.

If the player has not competed for a year but remains registered with USA Softball, the rules still apply. However, if they are not affiliated with USA Softball and have only played at the high school level, the WBSC ATR will only apply once they enter WBSC jurisdiction. This means the ATR will be relevant when they wish to transfer from a Swiss club to a club outside Switzerland.

Regarding USA Baseball:

The situation differs, as USA Baseball does not have a membership system like USA Softball. This means high school, college, or similar players will be integrated into the system and required to comply with the WBSC Athlete Transfer Rules only once they enter the jurisdiction.

For further clarity, here's an example: the transfer of college players from USA Baseball to a Swiss club affiliated with or a member of the Swiss Baseball Softball Association will not be governed by the ATR. However, once these players begin playing for the Swiss club, they will be subject to the Athlete Transfer Rules and must be registered in our system.

I hope this clarifies your questions,

Kind regards,

Carine Esoua

WBSC Legal Officer

WBSC

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