

# FIFA Club World Cup



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The **FIFA Club World Cup** is an international men's association football competition organised by the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), the sport's global governing body. The competition was first contested in 2000 as the FIFA Club World Championship. It was not held between 2001 and 2004 due to a combination of factors, most importantly the collapse of FIFA's marketing partner International Sport and Leisure. Since 2005, the competition has been held every year, and has been hosted by Brazil, Japan, the United Arab Emirates and Morocco. The FIFA Club World Cup's prestige is perceived quite differently in different parts of the football world: while it is widely regarded as the most distinguished club level trophy in South America, it struggles to attract interest in most of Europe.

The first FIFA Club World Championship took place in Brazil in 2000. It ran in parallel with the Intercontinental Cup (also known as European/South American Cup), a competition organised jointly by the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) and the Confederación Sudamericana de Fútbol (CONMEBOL) first disputed in 1960 by the winners of the European Champions' Cup and the Copa Libertadores. In 2005, after the Intercontinental Cup's last edition, that competition was merged with the Club World Cup's pilot edition and renamed the "FIFA Club World Championship". In 2006, the tournament took its current name.

The current format of the tournament involves seven teams competing for the title at venues within the host nation over a period of about two weeks; the winners of that year's AFC Champions League (Asia), CAF Champions League (Africa), CONCACAF Champions League (North America), Copa Libertadores (South

### FIFA Club World Cup



America), OFC Champions League (Oceania) and UEFA Champions League (Europe), along with the host nation's national champions, participate in a straight knock-out tournament. The host nation's national

champions dispute a play-off against the Oceania champions, from which the winner joins the champions of Asia, Africa and North America at the quarter-finals. The quarter-final winners go on to face the European and South American champions, who enter at the semi-final stage, for a place in the final.

The current champions are Spain's <u>Real Madrid</u>, who defeated Japan's <u>Kashima Antlers</u> 4–2 in the <u>final</u> of the <u>2016 edition</u>, to win a second title in the competition. European teams have been the most successful, with nine titles.

# **History**

### Origin

The first club tournament to be billed as the "Football World Championship" was held in 1887, in which Scottish Cup champions Hibernian defeated English FA Cup semi-finalists Preston North End. [1] According to FIFA, the first attempt at creating a global club football tournament was in 1909, 21 years before the first FIFA World Cup. [2] The Sir Thomas Lipton Trophy was held in Italy in 1909 and 1911, and contested by English, Italian, German and Swiss clubs. [3] It was won by English amateur side West Auckland on both occasions. [4]

The idea that FIFA should organise international club competitions dates from the beginning of the 1950s. In 1951, FIFA President Jules Rimet was asked about FIFA's involvement in the *Copa Rio*, and stated that it was not under FIFA's jurisdiction since it was organised and sponsored by the Brazilian Football Confederation (*Confederação Brasileira de Futebol*; CBF). The competition was succeeded by another tournament, named *Torneio Octogonal Rivadavia Corrêa Meyer*, which was won by <u>Vasco da Gama</u>. This tournament had five Brazilian sides, and three foreign clubs, thus, losing half of its intercontinental aspect. In December 2007, FIFA turned down Palmeiras' request to recognise the tournament as a Club World Cup since the participants were limited to two continents.



Estádio do Maracanã, the location of the first Club World Cup final in 2000 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Although the competition was discontinued, it was held in high regard. FIFA board members <u>Stanley Rous</u> and <u>Ottorino Barassi</u> participated personally, albeit not in their capacity as FIFA members, in the organisation of the competition in 1951. Rous' role was attributed to the negotiations with European clubs, whereas Barassi helped form the framework of the competition. Commenting on <u>Juventus'</u> acceptance to participate in the tournament, the Italian press stated that "an Italian club could not be missing in such an important and worldwide-reaching event". [11]

Because of the difficulty the CBF found in bringing European clubs to the competition, the *O Estado de S. Paulo* newspaper suggested that

there should be FIFA involvement in the programming of international club competitions saying that, "ideally, international tournaments, here or abroad, should be played at times set by FIFA". However, no response was received. The <u>Pequeña Copa del Mundo</u> was a tournament held in <u>Venezuela</u> between 1952 and 1957, with a two short revivals in 1963 and in 1965. It was usually played by eight participants, half from Europe and half from South America. After the late 1950s, the tournament rapidly lost status as the pedigree of its participants decreased. This competition, along with the creation of the European Cup and the Copa Libertadores, created the groundwork of the eventual Intercontinental Cup. [13]

### **Obstacles to the creation of the Club World Cup**

After winning the <u>Intercontinental Cup</u>, <u>Real Madrid</u> titled themselves *world champions* until FIFA stepped in and objected, citing that the competition did not include any other champions from the other confederations; FIFA stated that they can only claim to be intercontinental champions of a competition played between two organisations in which no one else had the opportunity to participate. FIFA failed to authorise the competition in the 1960s. FIFA stated that they would prohibit the <u>1961</u> edition to be played out unless the organisers regarded the competition as a friendly or a private match between two organisations. That same year the Intercontinental Cup was first played, FIFA authorised the <u>International Soccer League</u> to be contested with ratification from Sir Stanley Rous, who had become the FIFA President by that point.

Although FIFA hoped to eventually transform the International Soccer League into a Club World Cup, the Intercontinental Cup had attracted the interest of other continents. The North and Central America confederation, CONCACAF, was created in 1961 to organise its intentions of allowing its clubs to participate in the Copa Libertadores and, by extension, the Intercontinental Cup. However, their entry into both competitions was rejected. Subsequently, the CONCACAF Champions' Cup began in 1962. FIFA was asked by CONMEBOL and UEFA in 1963 to make the Intercontinental Cup official; however, FIFA gave the same response as in 1960 and stated that they would only recognise the competition if the Asian and African champions were included.

Due to the brutality of the Argentine and Uruguayan clubs at the Intercontinental Cup, FIFA was asked several times during the late 1960s to assess penalties and regulate the tournament. [23] However, FIFA refused each request. The first of these requests was made in 1967, after a play-off match labelled The Battle of Montevideo. The Scottish Football Association, via President Willie Allan, wanted FIFA to recognise the competition in order to enforce football regulation; FIFA responded that it could not regulate a competition it did not organise. Allan's crusade also suffered after CONMEBOL, with the backing of its President Teofilo Salinas and the Argentine Football Association (Asociación del Fútbol Argentino; AFA), refused to allow FIFA to have any hand in the competition, stating:

The CSF is the entity in charge of controlling, in South America, the organisation of the tournament between the champions of Europe and [South] America, a competition FIFA considers a friendly. We do not think it's appropriate that FIFA has to meddle in the matter.

René Courte, FIFA's General Sub-Secretary, wrote an article shortly afterwards stating that FIFA viewed the competition as a "European-South American friendly match". This was confirmed by Sir Stanley Rous, who then stated that FIFA saw the Intercontinental Cup as a friendly match. However, with the Asian and North American club competitions in place, FIFA opened the idea of supervising the competition if it included those confederations, which was met with a negative response from its participating confederations, UEFA and CONMEBOL. According to Stanley Rous, CONCACAF and the Asian Football Confederation had requested their participation in the Intercontinental Cup, which was rejected by UEFA and CONMEBOL. Madrid newspaper ABC then pointed out that, though the Intercontinental Cup was not officially endorsed by FIFA, it was endorsed by UEFA and CONMEBOL, therefore being an "intercontinental jurisdiction" cup. 1968 and 1969 Intercontinental Cups finished in similar fashion, with Manchester United manager Matt Busby insisting that "the Argentineans should be banned from all competitive football. FIFA should really step in". Soon after, Stanley Rous wrote an article for the FIFA magazine, reaffirming his desire that FIFA could create a Club World Cup featuring champion clubs of all confederations.

In 1970, during its Congress in Mexico, FIFA officially proposed for the first time the creation of a FIFA Club World Cup, to feature champion clubs of all confederations. The proposal received a negative response from the Europeans. [39][40][41] In 1973, French newspaper *L'Équipe*, who helped bring about the birth of the European Cup, [42] volunteered to sponsor a Club World Cup contested by the champions of Europe, South America, North America and Africa, the only continental club tournaments in existence at the time; the competition was to potentially take place in Paris between September and October 1974, with an eventual final to be held at the Parc des Princes. The extreme negativity of the Europeans prevented this from happening. [43] *L'Équipe* tried once again in 1975 to create a Club World Cup, in which participants would have been the four semi-finalists of the European Cup, both finalists of the Copa Libertadores, as well as the African and Asian champions. [44] However, UEFA, via its president, Artemio Franchi, declined once again and the proposal failed. [45]

With the Intercontinental Cup in danger of being dissolved, [46] West Nally, a British marketing company, was hired by UEFA and CONMEBOL to find a viable solution in 1980; [47][48][49] Toyota Motor Corporation, via West Nally, took the competition under its wing and rebranded it as the *Toyota Cup*, a one-off match played in Japan. [50][51] Toyota invested over US\$700,000 in the 1980 edition to take place in Tokyo's National Olympic Stadium, with over US\$200,000 awarded to each participant. [52] The Toyota Cup, with its new format, was received with scepticism, as the sport was unfamiliar in the Far East. [53][54] However, the financial incentive was welcomed, as European and South American clubs were suffering financial difficulties. [55] To protect themselves against the possibility of European withdrawals, Toyota, UEFA and every European Cup participant signed annual contracts requiring the eventual winners of the European Cup to participate at the Intercontinental Cup, as a condition UEFA stipulated to the clubs' participation in the European Cup, or risk facing an international lawsuit from UEFA and Toyota. [56] In 1983, The Football Association tried organising a Club World Cup to be played in 1985 and sponsored by West Nally, only to be denied by UEFA. [57]

The Interamerican Cup and the Afro-Asian Club Championship were tournaments created to allow those regions their own Club competitions, in large part due to the refusal of UEFA and CONMEBOL to allow CONCACAF, AFC and CAF clubs to compete in the Intercontinental Cup. [58] According to Brazilian newspaper *O Estado de São Paulo*, the deal for the establishment of the Interamerican Cup was made in 1968 by CONMEBOL and CONCACAF, and established that the Interamerican Cup champion club would be entitled to represent the American continent in the Intercontinental Cup. [59] According to the Mexican newspapers, after winning the 1977 and 1980 editions of the Interamerican Cup, Mexican teams Club América and Club Universidad Nacional, as well as the Mexican Football Federation, demanded, unsuccessfully, to participate in the Intercontinental Cup. [60][61][62]

# Birth of the FIFA Club World Cup

The framework of the 2000 FIFA Club World Championship was laid years in advance. [63] According to Sepp Blatter, the idea of the tournament was presented to the Executive Committee in December 1993 in Las Vegas, USA, by A.C. Milan president Silvio Berlusconi. [64] Initially, there were nine candidates to host the competition, of which only Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Brazil and Uruguay confirmed their interest to FIFA. On 3 September 1997, FIFA selected Brazil to host the competition, which was initially scheduled to take place in 1999. [65] The competition gave away US\$28 million in prize money and its TV rights, worth US\$40 million, were sold to 15 broadcasters across five continents. [66] The final draw of the first Club World Championship was done on 19 October 1999 at the Copacabana Palace Hotel in Rio de Janeiro. [67]

The inaugural competition was planned to be contested in 1999 by the continental club winners of 1998, the Intercontinental Cup winners and the host nation's national club champions, but it was postponed by one year. When it was rescheduled, the competition had eight new participants from the continental champions of 1999: Brazilian clubs Corinthians and Vasco da Gama, English side Manchester United, Mexican club Necaxa, Moroccan club Raja Casablanca, Spanish side Real Madrid, Saudi club Al-Nassr, and Australian club South Melbourne. The first goal of the competition was scored by Real Madrid's Nicolas Anelka in a 3–1 win over Al-Nassr on 5 January 2000. The final was an all-Brazilian affair, as well as the only one which saw one side have home advantage. Vasco da Gama could not take advantage of its local support, being beaten by Corinthians 4–3 on penalties after a 0–0 draw in extra time.

The <u>second edition</u> of the competition was planned for Spain in 2001, and was supposed to feature 12 clubs. [72] The draw was performed at <u>A Coruña</u> on 6 March 2001. [73] However, it was cancelled on 18 May, due to a combination of factors, most importantly the collapse of FIFA's marketing partner <u>International Sport and Leisure</u>. [74] The participants of the cancelled edition received US\$750,000 each in compensation; the <u>Royal Spanish Football Federation</u> (RFEF) also received US\$1 million from FIFA. [75] Another attempt to stage the competition in 2003, in which 17 countries were looking to be the host nation, also failed to happen. [76][77] FIFA agreed with UEFA, CONMEBOL and Toyota to merge the Intercontinental Cup and Club World Championship into one event. [78] The final Intercontinental Cup was in 2004, with a relaunched Club World Championship held in Japan in December 2005. [79]

The 2005 tournament was shorter than the previous World Championship, reducing the problem of scheduling the tournament around the different club seasons across each continent. It contained just the six reigning continental champions, with the CONMEBOL and UEFA representatives receiving byes to the semi-finals. A new trophy was introduced. The draw for the 2005 edition of the competition took place on 30 July 2005 at The Westin Tokyo. [80] In the final, one goal from Mineiro was enough for São Paulo to defeat English club Liverpool; [81][82]

<u>Internacional</u> defeated defending world and South American champions São Paulo in the <u>2006 Copa Libertadores finals</u> in order to qualify for the 2006 tournament, which they won with a late goal from Adriano



Barcelona manager Pep Guardiola is hoisted in the air after his team won the 2011 FIFA Club World Cup, defeating Santos 4–0 in the final.

<u>Gabiru</u> to defeat <u>Barcelona</u> in the <u>final</u> [84] It was in <u>2007</u> when Brazilian hegemony was finally broken, when Milan defeated <u>Boca Juniors</u> 4–2 in a <u>final</u> that saw players on both sides <u>sent off</u>: Milan's <u>Kakha Kaladze</u> in the 77th minute, and 11 minutes later, Boca Juniors' <u>Pablo Ledesma</u>. [85] The following year, Manchester United saw off Ecuadorian club <u>LDU Quito</u> 1–0 to become <u>world champions</u> in 2008. [86]

The United Arab Emirates applied, with success, for the right to host the FIFA Club World Cup in 2009 and 2010. Barcelona dethroned world and European champions Manchester United in the 2009 UEFA Champions League final to qualify for that year's Club World Cup. After a close final encounter, which saw the need for extra-time, Lionel Messi scored from a header to snatch victory for Barcelona and complete an unprecedented sextuple. Sextuple. The 2010 tournament saw the first team from outside Europe or South America side to reach the final: DR Congo's TP Mazembe defeated Brazil's Internacional 2–0 in the semi-final to face Internazionale, who had beaten South Korean club Seongnam Ilhwa Chunma 3–0. Internazionale would go on to beat Mazembe with the same scoreline to complete their quintuple.



Corinthians won their second world title after defeating Chelsea 1–0 in the final.

The FIFA Club World Cup returned to Japan for the 2011 and 2012 edition. [98] In 2011, Barcelona comfortably won their semi-final match 4–0 against Qatari club Al Sadd. [99] In the final, Barcelona would repeat their performance against Santos; this is, to date, the largest winning margin in the final of the competition. [100] Messi also became the first player to score in two different Club World Cup finals. [101] The 2012 edition saw Europe's dominance come to an end as Corinthians, boasting over 30,000 travelling fans which was dubbed the "Invasão da Fiel", travelled to Japan to join Barcelona in being two-time winners of the competition. [102][103] In the semi-finals, Al-Ahly managed to keep the scoreline close as Corinthians' Paolo Guerrero scored to send the Timão into their second final. [104] Guerrero would once again come through for

Corinthians as the *Timão* saw off English side Chelsea 1–0 in order to bring the trophy back to Brazil. [105][106]

<u>2013</u> and <u>2014</u> had the Club World Cup moving to Morocco. The first edition saw a <u>Cinderella</u> run of host team Raja Casablanca, who had to start in the play-off round and became the second African team to reach the final, after defeating Brazil's <u>Atlético Mineiro</u> in the semi-final. <u>[107]</u> Like Mazembe, Raja also lost to the European champion, this time a 2–0 defeat to <u>Bayern Munich</u>. <u>[108]</u> 2014 again had a decision between South America and Europe, and Real Madrid beat <u>San Lorenzo</u> 2–0. <u>[109]</u>

The <u>2015</u> and <u>2016</u> editions once again saw Japan as hosts for the 7th and 8th time respectively in the 12th and 13th editions of the FIFA Club World Cup. The 2015 Edition saw a Final between <u>River Plate</u> and FC Barcelona. FC Barcelona lifted their 3rd FIFA Club World Cup, with Suarez scoring two goals and Lionel Messi scoring one goal in the <u>Final</u>. One notable thing that occurred in the 2015 tournament was that <u>Sanfrecce Hiroshima</u> made it to third place, the farthest ever achieved by a Japanese club. This record would not last though, as the 2016 edition saw J1 League winners <u>Kashima Antlers</u> making it to the <u>Final</u> (outscoring rivals 7-1), against Real Madrid. A <u>Gaku Shibasaki</u> inspired Kashima attempted to win their first FIFA Club World Cup (a feat never done by a host club or any club outside of Europe and South America), but were denied by Real Madrid, who won 4-2 in extra time, thanks to a hat-trick by <u>Cristiano Ronaldo</u>. The victory saw Real Madrid win their 2nd FIFA Club World Cup, and their 5th International title (counting the three Intercontinental Cups Real Madrid had won prior to 2014).

# **Performances**

Barcelona hold the record for most victories, winning the competition three times. Corinthians' inaugural victory remains the best result from a host nation's national league champions. Teams from Spain have won the tournament five times, the most for any nation. [110]

#### Key to the table

†	Match was won during extra time
‡	Match was won on a penalty shoot-out

Season	Host	Winners	Score	Runners-up	Third place	Score	Fourth place	Ref
2000	Brazil	Corinthians	<b>0-0</b> ‡ [n 1]	Vasco da Gama	Necaxa	<b>1–1</b> ‡ [n 2]	Real Madrid	[112] [113]
2005	<ul><li>Japan</li></ul>	São Paulo	1-0	Liverpool	Saprissa	3–2	Al- Ittihad	[114] [115]
2006	<ul><li>Japan</li></ul>	Internacional	1-0	Barcelona	Al Ahly	2–1	<b>■</b> América	[116] [117]
2007	<ul><li>Japan</li></ul>	<b>■</b> Milan	4-2	Boca Juniors	• Urawa Red Diamonds	<b>2–2</b> ‡ [n 3]	<u>©</u> Étoile du Sahel	[119] [120]
2008	<ul><li>Japan</li></ul>	Manchester United	1-0	LDU Quito	• Gamba Osaka	1-0	Pachuca	[121] [122]
2009	United Arab Emirates	Barcelona	<b>2-1</b> <sup>†</sup> [n 4]	<u>Estudiantes</u>	Pohang Steelers	<b>1–1</b> ‡ [ <u>n 5]</u>	<b>■◆■</b> <u>Atlante</u>	[125] [126]
2010	United Arab Emirates	Internazionale	3-0	TP Mazembe	Internacional	4–2	Seongnam Ilhwa Chunma	[127] [128]
2011	• Japan	Barcelona	4-0	Santos	Al Sadd	<b>0–0</b> ‡ [n 6]	• Kashiwa Reysol	[130] [131]
2012	<ul><li>Japan</li></ul>	Corinthians	1-0	<b>+</b> Chelsea	Monterrey	2–0	Al Ahly	[132] [133]
2013	Morocco	Bayern Munich	2-0	Raja Casablanca	Atlético Mineiro	3–2	Guangzhou Evergrande	[134] [135]
2014	Morocco	Real Madrid	2-0	San Lorenzo	Auckland City	<b>1–1</b> ‡ [n 7]	Cruz Azul	[137] [138]
2015	<ul><li>Japan</li></ul>	Barcelona	3-0	River Plate	Sanfrecce Hiroshima	2–1	Guangzhou Evergrande	[139] [140]
2016	<ul><li>Japan</li></ul>	Real Madrid	<b>4–2</b> <sup>†</sup> [n 8]	Kashima Antlers	Atlético Nacional	<b>2–2</b> ‡ [n 9]	<b>■</b> • América	[143] [144]
2017	United Arab Emirates							
2018	United Arab Emirates							

Club	Won	Lost	Years won	Years lost
Barcelona	3	1	2009, 2011, 2015	2006
Corinthians	2	0	2000, 2012	_
Real Madrid	2	0	2014, 2016	_
São Paulo	1	0	2005	_
Internacional	1	0	2006	_
Milan	1	0	2007	_
→ Manchester United	1	0	2008	_
Internazionale	1	0	2010	
Bayern Munich	1	0	2013	_

### **Results by confederation**

Africa's best representatives are TP Mazembe from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Moroccan club Raja Casablanca both finishing in second place in 2010 and 2013 respectively. Kashima Antlers is Asia's best representative, finishing second in the 2016 edition. They remain the only clubs from outside Europe and South America to play in the final.

Mexican clubs Necaxa and Monterrey, as well as Costa Rica's <u>Saprissa</u>, have each earned third place, North America's best results. Auckland City has earned third place and is the only OFC team to reach the semi-finals.

Confederation	Winner	Winner Second		Fourth	
UEFA	9	3	_	1	
CONMEBOL	4	7	3	_	
CAF	_	2	1	2	
AFC	_	1	5	5	
CONCACAF	_	_	3	5	
OFC	_	_	1	_	
Total	13	13	13	13	

Table current through 18 December 2016

## Results by league

This table shows the leagues whose representatives have finished in the top four at least once at the FIFA Club World Cup:

Results by league

League	Confederation	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
La Liga	UEFA	5	1	0	1
Campeonato Brasileiro	CONMEBOL	4	2	2	0
Serie A	UEFA	2	0	0	0
+ Premier League	UEFA	1	2	0	0
Bundesliga	UEFA	1	0	0	0
Argentine Primera División	CONMEBOL	0	4	0	0
• J1 League	AFC	0	1	3	1
Botola	CAF	0	1	0	0
Linafoot	CAF	0	1	0	0
Ecuadorian Serie A	CONMEBOL	0	1	0	0
<b>■●■</b> Liga MX	CONCACAF	0	0	2	5
Egyptian Premier League	CAF	0	0	1	1
K League Classic	AFC	0	0	1	1
ASB Premiership	OFC	0	0	1	0
Costa Rican Primera División	CONCACAF	0	0	1	0
Primera A	CONMEBOL	0	0	1	0
Qatar Stars League	AFC	0	0	1	0
Chinese Super League	AFC	0	0	0	2
Saudi Professional League	AFC	0	0	0	1
Tunisian Ligue Professionnelle 1	CAF	0	0	0	1

Table current through 18 December 2016

# Format and rules

As of 2012, most teams qualify to the FIFA Club World by winning their continental competitions, be it the Asian AFC Champions League, African CAF Champions League, North American CONCACAF Champions League, South American Copa Libertadores, Oceanian OFC Champions League or European UEFA Champions League. Aside from these, the host nation's national league champions qualify as well. [145]

The maiden edition of this competition was separated into two rounds. The eight participants were split into two groups of four teams. The winner of each group met in the final while the runners-up played for third place. The competition changed its format during the 2005 relaunch into a <u>single-elimination tournament</u> in which teams play each other in one-off matches, with <u>extra time</u> and <u>penalty shoot-outs</u> used to decide the winner if necessary. It featured six clubs competing over a two-week period. There were three stages: the quarter-final round, the semi-final round and the final. The quarter-final stage pitted the Oceanian Champions League winners, the African Champions League winners and the North American

Champions League winners against each other. Afterwards, the winners of those games would go on to the semi-finals to play the European Champions League winners and South America's Copa Libertadores winners. The victors of each semi-final would play go on to play in the final. [145]

With the introduction of the current format, which now has a fifth place match and a place for the host nation's national league champions, the format slightly changed. There are now four stages: the play-off round, the quarter-final round, the semi-final round and the final. The first stage pits the host nation's national league champions against the Oceanian Champions League winners. The winner of that stage would go on the quarter-finals to join the African Champions League winners, the AFC Champions League winners and the CONCACAF Champions League winners. The winners of those games would go on to the semi-finals to play the UEFA Champions League winners and South America's Copa Libertadores winners. The winners of each semi-final play each other in the final. [145]

# Distribution of clubs in the FIFA Club World Cup<sup>[145]</sup>

#### Play-off round

- Winners of the OFC Champions League
- Host nation's national league champions

#### Quarter-final round

- Winners of the AFC Champions League
- Winners of the CONCACAF Champions League
- Winners of the CAF Champions League
- Winners of the play-off round

#### Semi-final round

- Winners of the Copa Libertadores
- Winners of the UEFA Champions League
- Two winners of the quarter-final round

#### **Final**

Two winners of the semi-final round

# **Trophy**

The trophy used during the inaugural competition was called the *FIFA Club World Championship* Cup. The original laurel was created by Sawaya & Moroni, an Italian designer company that produces contemporary designs with cultural backgrounds and design concepts. The designing firm is based in <u>Milan</u>. The fully silver-coloured trophy had a weight of 4 kg (8.8 lb) and a height of 37.5 cm (14.8 in). Its base and widest points are 10 cm (3.9 in) long. The trophy had a base of two pedestals which had four rectangular pillars. Two of the four pillars had inscriptions on them; one contained the phrase, "FIFA Club World Championship" imprinted across. The other had the letters "FIFA" inscribed on it. On top, a football based on the <u>1998 FIFA World Cup</u> ball, the <u>Adidas Tricolore</u>, can be seen. The production costs of the laurel was US\$25,000. It was presented for the first time at Sheraton Hotels and Resorts in Rio de Janeiro on 4 January 2000. [146][147][148][149]

The tournament, in its present format, shares its name with the current trophy, also called the *FIFA Club World Cup* or simply *la Copa*, which is awarded to the FIFA Club World Cup winner. It was unveiled at <u>Tokyo</u> on 30 July 2005 during the draw of that year's edition of the competition. The laurel was designed in 2005 in <u>Birmingham</u>, United Kingdom, at <u>Thomas Fattorini Ltd</u>, by English designer Jane Powell, alongside her assistant Dawn Forbes, at the behest of FIFA. The gold-and-silver-coloured trophy, weighing 5.2 kg (11 lb), has a height of 50 cm (20 in). Its base and widest points are also measured at exactly 20 cm (7.9 in). It is made out of a combination of <u>brass</u>, <u>copper</u>, <u>sterling silver</u>, <u>gilding metal</u>, <u>aluminium</u>, chrome and rhodium. The trophy itself is gold plated. [80][147]

Just as the [FIFA] women's [World Cup] trophy had a distinct feminine note to it, so this new trophy is more masculine. It is also inspired by a classic sense of geometry and architecture, enduring concepts just like the status of a World Champion.

The design, according to FIFA, shows six staggered pillars, representing the six participating teams from the respective six confederations, and one separate metal structure referencing the winner of the competition. They hold up a globe in the shape of a football — a consistent feature amongst almost all of FIFA's event trophies. The graceful curves and inherent strength of the trophy evoke the balletic and athletic qualities necessary to successfully compete in the FIFA Club World Cup and the tension and movement describe the competitive energy amongst the participants. The golden pedestal has the phrase, "FIFA Club World Cup", imprinted at the bottom. [147]

William Sawaya, designer of the FIFA Club World
Championship trophy,
commenting on the laurel;
Fédération Internationale de
Football Association, 3 January
2000. [146]

# **Awards**

At the end of each Club World Cup, awards are presented to the players and teams for accomplishments other than their final team positions in the tournament. There are currently four awards: [150]

- The Golden Ball for the best player, determined by a vote of media members; the Silver Ball and the Bronze Ball are awarded to the players finishing second and third in the voting respectively;<sup>[150]</sup>
- The Golden Boot (sometimes called the Golden Shoe) for the top goalscorer; the Silver Boot and the Bronze Boot have been awarded to the second and third top goalscorers respectively; [150]
- The <u>FIFA Fair Play Trophy</u> for the team with the best record of <u>fair play</u>, according to the points system and criteria established by the FIFA Fair Play Committee. [150]
- The Most Valuable Player of the Final Match Trophy for the best performing player in the FIFA Club World Cup final. It was first awarded in 2005. The MVP of the Final Match is also rewarded with an automobile by Toyota, the presenting sponsor of the FIFA Club World Cup. [150]

The winners of the competition also receive the *FIFA Club World Cup Champions Badge*; it features an image of the trophy, which the reigning champion is entitled to display on its kit until the final of the next championship. The first edition of the badge was presented to  $\underline{\text{Milan}}$ , the winners of the  $\underline{2007 \text{ final}}$ .  $\underline{^{[151]}}$  All four previous champions were allowed to wear the badge until the  $\underline{2008 \text{ final}}$ , where  $\underline{\text{Manchester United}}$  gained the sole right to wear the badge by winning the trophy.  $\underline{^{[152]}}$ 

Each tournament's top three teams receives a set of gold, silver or bronze medals to distribute to their players. [150]

# **Prize money**

The 2000 FIFA Club World Championship was the inaugural edition of this competition; it provided US\$28 million in prize money for its participants. The prize money received by the clubs participating was divided into fixed payments based on participation and results. Clubs finishing the tournament from fifth to eighth place received US\$2.5 million. The club who would eventually finish in fourth place received US\$3 million while the third-place team received US\$4 million. The runner-up earned US\$5 million while the eventual champions would gain US\$6 million. [153]

The relaunch of the tournament in 2005 FIFA Club World Championship saw different amounts of prize money given and some changes in the criteria of receiving certain amounts. The total amount of prize money given dropped to US\$16 million. The winners received US\$5 million and the runners-up US\$4 million, with \$2.5 million for third place, US\$2 million for fourth, US\$1.5 million for fifth and US\$1 million for sixth. [154][154]

For the <u>2007 FIFA Club World Cup</u>, a play-off match between the <u>OFC</u> champions and the host-nation champions for entry into the quarter-final stage was introduced in order to increase home interest in the tournament. The reintroduction of the match for fifth place for the <u>2008 competition</u> also prompted an increase in prize money by US\$500,000 to a total of US\$16.5 million. [155]

#### Prize money

Winner	US\$5 million
Runner-up	US\$4 million
Third place	US\$2.5 million
Fourth place	US\$2 million
Fifth place	US\$1.5 million
Sixth place	US\$1 million
Seventh place	US\$0.5 million

# **Sponsorship**

Like the FIFA World Cup, the FIFA Club World Cup is sponsored by a group of multinational corporations. Toyota Motor Corporation, a Japanese multinational automaker headquartered in Toyota, Aichi, Japan, was the Presenting Partner of the FIFA Club World Cup until its sponsorship agreement expired at the end of December 2014 and was not renewed. Because Toyota was an automobile manufacturer and the main sponsor of the tournament, Hyundai-Kia's status as a FIFA partner was not active with respect to the Club World Cup prior to 2015. However, the other FIFA partners – Adidas, Coca-Cola, and Visa – retained full sponsorship rights. From 2015 to 2022, the tournament will be presented by Alibaba E-Auto. 157

The inaugural competition had six event sponsors: <u>Fujifilm</u>, <u>Hyundai</u>, <u>JVC</u>, <u>McDonald's</u>, <u>Budweiser</u>, and MasterCard. [66][158][159]

Individual clubs may wear jerseys with advertising, even if such sponsors conflict with those of the FIFA Club World Cup. However, only one main sponsor is permitted per jersey in addition to that of the kit manufacturer. [145]

The tournament's current event sponsors and brands advertised (in *italic*) are: [159]

#### **FIFA Partners**

- Adidas<sup>[159]</sup>
- Coca-Cola<sup>[159]</sup>
  - Powerade<sup>[159]</sup>
  - Aquarius<sup>[159]</sup>
  - *I-Lohas*<sup>[159]</sup>
- Wanda Group<sup>[159]</sup>
- Gazprom<sup>[159]</sup>
- Visa<sup>[159]</sup>

#### **Event Sponsors**

- JTB<sup>[159]</sup>
- Lawson<sup>[159]</sup>
- Makita<sup>[159]</sup>
- Sixpad Training Gear<sup>[159]</sup>
- Rinnai<sup>[159]</sup>
- Yomiuri<sup>[159]</sup>

## **Records and statistics**

Seven players have won the FIFA Club World Cup on three occasions:  $\underline{\underline{Dani}}$  Alves,  $\underline{\underline{[160]}}$  Sergio Busquets,  $\underline{\underline{[161]}}$  Andrés Iniesta,  $\underline{\underline{[162]}}$  Lionel Messi,  $\underline{\underline{[101]}}$  Gerard Piqué,  $\underline{\underline{[163]}}$  Cristiano Ronaldo  $\underline{\underline{[164]}}$  and Toni Kroos.  $\underline{\underline{[165]}}$ 

<u>César Delgado</u>, <u>Cristiano Ronaldo</u>, <u>Lionel Messi</u> and <u>Luis Suárez</u> hold the record of being the <u>overall top goals</u>corers in FIFA Club World Cup history with five goals. <u>[166]</u> <u>Denilson and Mohamed Aboutrika</u> share fifth place with four goals each. <u>[101][167][168]</u>

<u>Wael Gomaa</u> is the player with most appearances in the competition with eleven matches, followed by Xavi, Valdés and Puyol playing six matches each. [162][169][170][171]

Barcelona claims the record with the most wins (7). Corinthians, Necaxa, Real Madrid and <u>Kashiwa Reysol</u> have the most draws (2), while <u>Al Ahly</u> have the record of the most losses (7). Barcelona also possess



<u>Pep Guardiola</u> is the most successful manager, winning two of his titles with Barcelona and a third with Bayern Munich.

the record for most goals scored in the competition (23), while Al Ahly claim the record of most goals conceded (15). [110] Barcelona also has the best goal difference in the competition (+20). [110]

Pep Guardiola is the only head coach to win three FIFA Club World Cups. [110]

As of the end of the 2016 tournament, Auckland City FC has played the most games with 14 in eight different tournaments. Barcelona holds the record for scoring the most goals, playing eight games in four different editions and scoring 23 goals. [110]

# Reception

Since its inception in 2000, the competition, despite its name and the contestants' achievements, has received differing reception. In most of Europe it struggles to find broad media attention compared to the <u>UEFA</u> <u>Champions League</u> and commonly lacks recognition as a high-ranking contest. [172][173] In South America, however, it is widely considered the highest point in the career of a footballer, coach and/or team at international club level. [174][175]

The competition is also criticised, mainly by the European press and fans among others, by its competition format, which widely favours the UEFA and CONMEBOL teams, since their contestants start in the semi-final round and can only play between them in the final match. It is also criticised for its poor organisation, the poor reception among the local fans for the matches not featuring any European or South American team, FIFA's

decision to select the competition's host based on economic deals and not on their footballing merit at the international stage like Japan, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates, the exception is Brazil, and the poor economic benefits for the winning team, regarded as inferior than any Super Cup prizes. [176][177]

### **Notes**

- 1. Score was 0-0 after 120 minutes. Corinthians won 4-3 on penalties. [70]
- 2. Extra time was played in the third-place match. Necaxa won 4-3 on penalties. [111]
- 3. No extra time was played in the third-place match. Urawa Red Diamonds won 4–2 on penalties. [118]
- 4. Score was 1-1 after 90 minutes. [123]
- 5. No extra time was played in the third-place match. Pohang Steelers won 4-3 on penalties. [124]
- 6. No extra time was played in the third-place match. Al Sadd won 5-3 on penalties. [129]
- 7. No extra time was played in the third-place match. Auckland City won 4–2 on penalties. [136]
- 8. Score was 2-2 after 90 minutes.[141]
- 9. No extra time was played in the third-place match. Atlético Nacional won 4-3 on penalties. [142]

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# **External links**

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