



**REFERENCE**

Official Recognition

Svenska Fotbollförbundet, through Elitfotbolldam

**DATE**

17 February 2023

**CONTACT**

Joachim Walltin

**SUBJECT**

**Formal recognition of Spelarföreningen Fotboll I Sverige SFS as the official representative for professional football players in Sweden.**

Dear Mr. Karl-Erik Nilsson Svenska (Fotbollförbundet) and Ms. Annika Grälls (Elitfotboll Dam),

We turn to you in relation to the formal recognition of our FIFPRO member union in Swedish football.

We are aware of the ongoing negotiation process for a new collective bargaining agreement in Swedish women's football. Various statements in the media and reports via our member union give us great concern, that the employer counterparts to this negotiation seek to undermine the previously respected position of Spelarföreningen, despite the clear support by the players for their union and their position as a FIFPRO member union.

FIFPRO is the Global Football Players Association that represents more than 60 000 professional footballers through our member unions. FIFPRO and FIFA have a cooperation agreement, in which FIFA recognizes FIFPRO as the sole body representing the employment interests of professional football players worldwide, with our national unions being recognised as the representative of players at the domestic level.

Art 2.b of the FIFA / FIFPRO Cooperation agreement states:

*'FIFA recognises FIFPro as the sole body representing the employment interests of professional footballers at a global level, on the basis of its current statutes, and its members, which are properly constituted and recognised under FIFPro Statutes, as the representatives of professional football players at national level'.*

With the above cooperation agreement in mind, we would like to confirm that we recognise Spelarföreningen Fotboll as our member and as the sole representative of the players to negotiate on their behalf.

It is crucial that the the mandate given to the union by the players and derived from their status as our member union, as it endeavors to conclude the ongoing collective bargaining agreement negotiation.

We hope this information is sufficient to clarify any uncertainty there may have been around who is entitled to represent the professional players in Sweden. We stay at your disposal if you have questions related to this and we encourage all parties to cooperate as the main domestic stakeholders and work in the best interest for the further development of Swedish football.

We thank you for taking note of the above and we are looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a rounded rectangular box. The signature is highly stylized and cursive, appearing to be 'JBH'.A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Walltin'.

**Jonas Baer-Hoffman, General Secretary**  
**Joachim Walltin, GS Division Europe**