



# BC High MUN 30



## 2022 FIFA World Cup

Chair: Daniel Trejo '22  
Co-Chair: Jack McNicholl '22

Letter From the Chair



Greetings Delegates,

My name is Daniel Trejo and I am a senior here at BC High. I have been a part of the Model UN program since I was a freshman. For the past four years, I have participated in our annual conference either as part of the crisis staff or being a chair. Outside of Model UN, I am part of the Mock Trial team, Hispanic-Latino Association, and soccer team.

I remember first recommending this committee for the BC High conference back when I was a sophomore, so I'm excited to finally be able to chair it. This is an intermediate committee, which means you should come prepared to discuss all of the topics outlined in this document. You don't have to overwhelm yourself with research, but familiarize yourself enough with the issues to be able to voice your opinions, keeping in mind to be as accurate to your person's position as possible. If you would like to be in contention for the Ben Maher Position Paper Award, you should email me your position papers before the first committee session begins. The sooner, the better (I do not want to be reading position papers during the lunch break). Additionally, winning this award will not affect your chances of winning other awards, so do not be reluctant to email you papers.

With all that out of the way, you should find this background guide to be a good starting point for your research. Or if it's your only source of information, that's fine by me. I just want to see active debating until closing ceremonies. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Daniel Trejo'22 | [d.trejo22@students.bchigh.edu](mailto:d.trejo22@students.bchigh.edu)



## Letter from the Co-Chair

Greetings Delegates,

My name is Jack McNicholl and I am a senior here at BCH. Outside of Model UN I play soccer and rugby, and hope to study business in college. My favorite Model UN moment was last year during our conference where I was on the crisis staff during a North/South Korean dispute. Many of my friends were all working with me on it and it was a great experience for my first time hosting a committee. I'm very excited to be a part of this committee because both Dan and I enjoy soccer as well as debate, making this particular committee a perfect match for us.

Sincerely,

Jack McNicholl '22 | [jf.mcnicholl22@students.bchigh.edu](mailto:jf.mcnicholl22@students.bchigh.edu).



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# Important Prerequisites

- This committee will take place in early 2020, along the same time as the French authorities investigate the results of the 2022 World Cup hosts
- I urge you all to watch these videos, above all else. It will give you an idea of what's at stake.
  1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WlaWTESJjrg>
  2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vw34wMAqWzc>
  3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c0cUE-ePDEc>
  4. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-r9sj7zHJ4>
- In this background guide, football refers to association football, better known here as soccer. I AM NOT REFERRING TO AMERICAN FOOTBALL/NFL. No, I do not care that we live in America, I will use both terms interchangeably.



## II. History of FIFA

### Origins of FIFA and the World Cup

FIFA, also known as the Federation Internationale de Football Association, was created in Paris, 1904 by 7 member countries—Belgium, Denmark, France, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland. The goal was to replicate England's Football Association, which acted as the governing body, only this would be on an international level. After the success of the first international football match between France and Belgium, FIFA established its rules, namely:

- Reciprocal and exclusive recognition of the national associations
- Players cannot play for multiple national teams (For the most part. There are some exceptions)
- Playing matches according to Laws of the Game of Football Association Ltd.

Soon after the creation of FIFA, talks of an international tournament resulted in the FIFA president asking its members if they would be interested in such an event. In 1930, the first World Cup was hosted by Uruguay, who won the selection through its promise to split the profits with FIFA and other countries, while incurring all of the debt. The relative success of this tournament led to the continued tradition of holding an international tournament every four years, with exception to a few years due to the World Wars.



### Controversies Surrounding FIFA

In 2015, the US department of justice indicted 14 executives, 9 of which were FIFA officials, charging them with racketeering, wire fraud and money laundering over the course of 24 years by exploiting the international soccer industry. These defendants were accused of participating in criminal activities, in which they would collude with sports marketing executives to block out competitors from contracts involving rights to international tournaments in exchange for illicit payments totalling approximately \$150 million since 1991. The nine FIFA officials were:

- Jeffrey Webb: FIFA Vice President and executive committee member
- Eduardo Li: FIFA executive committee member-elect
- Julio Rocha: FIFA development officer
- Costas Takkas: worked for CONCACAF president
- Jack Warner: former FIFA Vice President and executive committee member
- Eugenio Figueredo: FIFA Vice President and executive committee member
- Rafael Esquivel: CONMEBOL executive committee member
- José María Marin: member of FIFA organizing committee for Olympic football tournaments
- Nicolas Leoz: FIFA executive committee member

Chuck Blazer, a former FIFA committee member, CONCACAF general secretary, and President of the US Soccer Federation gave testimony in New York in 2013 regarding corruption in FIFA (fancy talk for saying he snitched). Blazer admits to accepting bribes, along with other members of the FIFA executive committee, in exchange for selecting South Africa to be the 2010 World Cup hosts. This instance of bribery first began in 2004 and continued until 2011, but there



were many more. In the 2015 indictment of FIFA officials, one of the allegations was of Jack Warner, the president of CONCACAF, having accepted bribes for Morocco's bid in the 1998 World Cup. Warner was also involved in the South Africa bribery by accepting \$10 million from FIFA and the South Africa selection committee in exchange for his vote.

Blazer also admitted to receiving bribes for the 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, and 2003 Gold Cups, the majority of which he stored in offshore accounts. He failed to file his income tax returns between 2005 and 2010, leading to his apprehension by FBI and IRS agents in November of 2011. Rather than paying the millions of dollars in taxes he owed from commission through broadcasting contracts, he became an informant against other FIFA executives, going as far as secretly recording meetings with these executives

Sepp Blatter, the president of FIFA at the time, was excluded from the 2015 indictments, and he quickly stepped down from his position during the scandal. Six years later, he was accused, along with Michel Platini, by Swiss authorities of arranging a \$2 million payment. Both men were indicted for fraud, criminal mismanagement, and forgery, and led to an investigation that discovered FIFA's corruption. This investigation culminated in the aforementioned 2015 arrests, but Blatter was not included, despite being the reason for the investigation. The \$2 million payment to Platini as made at the same time as Blatter's FIFA presidency was being contested by Mohammed bin Hammam, the head of Asian soccer. Blatter claims it was a late payment for work that Platini did back in 1998, but was unable to be made earlier due to financial constraints. The Swiss prosecutors, however, see no legal basis for the payment and have determined that it "damaged FIFA's assets and unlawfully enriched Platini."



# Current Issue

In December of 2010, the FIFA Executive Committee selected Qatar to be the host for the 2022 World Cup. The bidding process to host a World Cup is a lengthy process, spanning around a decade in which selection committees from their respective countries must submit several applications of renewed interest, in which they outline the logistics of hosting the tournament as well as their financial plan. Qatar was chosen over other countries like the US and Japan, which immediately sparked controversy given Qatar's lack of existing infrastructure for such an event, as well as the numerous human rights violations occurring every day. Given the ethical violations and indictments of FIFA executives since the selection, people have begun to question the legitimacy of the 2022 host voting process. In fact, FIFA's inspection committee had actually labeled Qatar as a medium-high risk host.

French authorities began an investigation in 2019, with financial crime specialists to uncover any potential bribes that may have taken place to secure Qatar's bid, since over half of the 22 executive committee members have either been accused of or charged with corruption. The investigation centered around a meeting at the Élysée Palace, which took place just before the vote. Nicolas Sarkozy, the president of France at the time, met with Michel Platini, and Qatar's prime minister. Platini, who had an influential vote in the World Cup host decision, was supposedly surprised to see the Qatari at the meeting. Platini claims to have originally intended to vote for Qatar, and was meeting president Sarkozy to inform him of his vote. This claim is not corroborated by Sepp Blatter, who says that both had made an agreement in 2018 to vote for the



United States. Qatar obviously denies all accusations, and FIFA is justifying their verdict with their strategy to expand soccer into new territory.

### Problems with Qatar Hosting

Although the cost of infrastructure for the tournament is estimated to be around \$300 billion (Russia only spent \$11 billion), Qatar wants to host because they hope to expand their tourism and business industry, and become a Middle East hotspot like Dubai. They are hoping to expand their economy by \$20 billion, which is around 10% of their GDP in 2019.

The most pressing concern regarding the World Cup being hosted in Qatar is the human rights violations. Under the Kafala system, millions of migrant workers from South Asia and Africa are being exploited for their labor to construct the venues. Under the kafala system, workers need permission from their employer to switch jobs, return home (their passports are confiscated) or open a bank account. Other violations include a patriarchal system by which women's personal decisions rely on approval by a male family member, and the criminalization of homosexuality, however World Cup officials agree to allow promotion of homosexuality in stadiums. As a result of these conditions, over 6,500 migrant workers from India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka alone have died since Qatar won the bid. That amounts to around 12 workers dying each week, and does not even account for the workers sent by other countries like the Philippines and Kenya. The high death toll is due to the poor working conditions and extreme summer heat.

A less serious concern in comparison, yet still very inconvenient is the weather during the summer. In Qatar, temperatures can reach up to 110°F, making it extremely difficult to play football. FIFA has decided to push the World Cup to November-December as opposed to the



conventional June-July months as a solution. This scheduling will come into conflict with domestic leagues such as the Premier League, La Liga, Ligue 1, Bundesliga, and Serie A, all of which have a recess in the summer, but under normal circumstances would have scheduled games in the winter.



# Delegate Positions

FIFA Executives - These delegates hold some of the highest positions of power within FIFA.

They do not fall in the extreme sides of the argument, and their main goal is to improve FIFA's reputation with the public. Note: none of these members took part in the allegedly rigged election for the 2018 and 2022 World Cup hosts, but that does not mean that they aren't susceptible to bribes...

- Gianni Infantino: President of FIFA
- Shaikh Salman Bin Ebrahim: VP FIFA Executive Committee
- Alejandro Domingues: VP FIFA Executive Committee
- Vittorio Montagliani: VP FIFA Executive Committee
- Aleksander Ceferin: VP FIFA Executive Committee
- Sandor Csanyi: VP FIFA Executive Committee
- Lambert Maltock: VP FIFA Executive Committee

FIFA Ethics Committee: Committee responsible for investigating infringements on FIFA's Code of Ethics. They launched an investigation on several members of the Executive Committee during the 2015 scandal. These members will look to ensure that no illegal activity occurred



during the World Cup host selection or in this committee. They may want to work together with the prosecutors to emphasize investigations into FIFA.

- Martin Ngoga: Chairman
- Vassilios Skouris: Chairman
- Bruno de Vita: Deputy Chairman
- Fiti Sunia: Deputy Chairman
- Parusuraman Subramanian: Deputy Chairman
- Maria Claudia Rojas: Deputy Chairwoman

Qatar-Affiliated - On paper, hosting the World Cup will greatly benefit the country by putting it on the map. These people are obviously in favor of keeping the status quo. Their main goal is to convince the rest of the committee that there was no corruption, and that Qatar is the right choice for 2022.

- Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani: Emir of Qatar
- Khalid bin Khalifa bin Abdulaziz: Prime minister of Qatar
- Hamad Bin Khalifa Bin Ahmen Al-Thani: President Qatar Football Association (Not to be confused with Hamad bin Khalifa Al Than, the former Emir of Qatar)
- Nasser Al-Khater: CEO of 2022 World Cup

Prosecutors - These are government officials from organizations that have played a role in past and present FIFA scandals, either through investigations or arresting guilty parties. These people will be the most suspicious of the 2022 World Cup host selection. If a resolution includes some type of investigation or arresting certain individuals, support from these characters would be helpful



- Michael Lauber: Attorney General, Switzerland
- William Barr: Attorney General, USA
- Jean Michel Gentil: Investigative Judge, France (criminal investigation are performed through this position)
- Michael J. Garcia: US Attorney for New York (investigated FIFA's actions in the voting for the World Cup 2018 and 2022 host countries)

Members of the 2010 FIFA Executive Committee - This is the committee that took part in the controversial 2018 and 2022 World Cup host decisions, and was subject to the scandal of 2015. However, the Qatari Emir was insistent that the members that could, should participate in this committee (I wonder why...) because of the unique perspective that they will bring, and perhaps be able to prove their innocence. It is important to note that none of these people were arrested during the raids.

- Hany Abo Rida
- Jacques Anouma
- Marios Lefkaritis
- Senes Erzik



# Questions to Consider

1. Should there be a change to the selection process for the World Cup hosts? Should more entities be involved in this decision other than the FIFA Executive Committee? What are potential ways to limit the possibility of corruption in this decision
2. Is it necessary to launch another internal investigation to uncover any further bribes, unethical behavior, or gross incompetence that has occurred at FIFA?
3. Should the Qatar 2022 bid be re-evaluated by a separate committee? What would you look into, and how would you decide which country would replace Qatar?



Now that you have read through this guide, enjoy this video of a comedian throwing money at Sepp Blatter during a press conference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opRFiQY2yrc>

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