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UEFA Disciplinary Regulations (DR)

Edition 2002

**Union des associations
européennes de football**

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On the basis of Article 56 of the *UEFA Statutes*, the UEFA Executive Committee issues the following disciplinary regulations:

INTRODUCTION

Article 1 - Precept

UEFA disciplinary law serves the realisation of the objects of UEFA, as per Article 2 of the UEFA Statutes. These regulations contain the substantive and formal provisions which govern the penalisation of breaches of duty.

Article 2 - Scope of application

The present disciplinary regulations apply for the treatment of all disciplinary cases.

Article 3 - Subsidiary law

In the absence of provisions in the present disciplinary regulations and other regulations, the disciplinary bodies will take a decision according to recognised principles and in accordance with justice and fairness.

Article 4 - Disciplinary power

UEFA's member associations, clubs, as well as their players and officials and members, submit to UEFA's disciplinary power, are bound by and recognise the UEFA Statutes, as well as all regulations and decisions issued by UEFA, and observe the *Laws of the Game* as issued by the International Football Association Board (IFAB).

PART ONE: DISCIPLINARY LAW

A. General Provisions

Article 5 - Principles of conduct

¹ Member associations, clubs, as well as their players, officials and members, shall conduct themselves according to the principles of loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.

² For example, a breach of these principles is incurred by anyone:

- a) who engages in or attempts to engage in active or passive bribery;
- b) whose conduct is racist, discriminatory, politically extremist, insulting or of any other such nature as to violate the basic rules of conduct;
- c) who uses sporting events for manifestations of a non-sporting nature;
- d) whose conduct brings the sport of football, and UEFA in particular, into disrepute;

- e) who defies decisions and directives of the Organs for the Administration of Justice;
- f) who does not comply with instructions given by the referee or delegate.

Article 6 - Responsibility

¹ Member associations and clubs are responsible for the conduct of their players, officials, members, supporters and any other persons exercising a function at a match at the request of the association or club.

² The host association or club is responsible for order and security both inside and around the stadium before, during and after the match. It is liable for incidents of any kind, and can be rendered subject to disciplinary measures and bound to observe directives.

Article 7 - Limitation

¹ Prosecution is barred at the end of:

- a) one year for offences committed on the pitch or in its immediate vicinity;
- b) 10 years for bribery and doping offences;
- c) five years for all other offences.

² The instigation of proceedings interrupts the limitation.

³ The period of limitation starts afresh at each interruption. Prosecution is, however, barred whenever more than half of the ordinary period of limitation as per paragraph 1 above has passed.

B. Facts

Article 8 - Principles

¹ Unsporting conduct, breaches of the Laws of the Game, as well as infringements of UEFA's Statutes, regulations, decisions and directives, are penalised by means of disciplinary measures.

² Disciplinary measures provided for may be taken against member associations, clubs and individuals for offences before, during or after the match.

Article 9 - Repeated cautions

¹ Disciplinary sanctions will be imposed for repeated cautions in different matches in the same category of competition in the same season. The specific competition regulations will apply.

² Cautions and suspensions may be combined with fines.

Article 10 - Misconduct of players

¹ The following player sanctions apply for competition matches:

- a) suspension for one competition match or for a definite period for
 - 1. a second caution in the same match

2. rough play
 3. repeated protests against the referee's decisions
 4. improper conduct
 5. insulting players or others present at the match
 6. other unsporting acts;
- b) suspension for two competition matches or for a definite period for pestering or insulting the referee;
 - c) suspension for three competition matches or for a definite period for assaulting players or others present at the match;
 - d) suspension for five competition matches or for a definite period for serious assault;
 - e) suspension for ten competition matches or for a definite period for assaulting the referee.
- ² Suspensions may be combined with fines.
- ³ Disciplinary action may be taken even if the referee was not able to see gross unsporting conduct and was therefore unable to take any factual decision.
- ⁴ In the event of serious offences, the suspension can be extended to include all competition categories.

Article 11 - Other facts

Disciplinary measures provided for in the present regulations may be taken against member associations or clubs if:

- a) a team, player, official or member is in breach of Article 5 of the present regulations;
- b) a team continues to conduct itself improperly, even after several individual disciplinary sanctions have been imposed by the referee;
- c) spectators invade or attempt to invade the field of play, objects are thrown, fireworks ignited, or if order and discipline in the stadium area are otherwise not guaranteed.

Article 12 - Doping

¹ Any player who voluntarily or negligently uses banned substances or methods is suspended:

- a) for 12 months for the first doping offence;
- b) for two years for the first instance of recidivism;
- c) for more than two years or indefinitely for the second instance of recidivism.

² The suspension can be combined with a fine.

³ The Regulations governing doping controls at UEFA competition matches and list of banned substances and methods are authoritative.

⁴ Implicated associations, clubs and individuals are called to account for being accomplices or abettors.

C. Disciplinary Measures and Directives

Article 13 - Definitions

¹ The disciplinary bodies impose disciplinary measures and issue directives.

² Disciplinary measures are sanctions on the conduct to be disciplined. They may be combined.

Article 14 - Disciplinary measures against member associations and clubs

¹ The following disciplinary measures may be imposed against member associations and clubs in accordance with Article 53 of the Statutes:

- a) warning
- b) reprimand
- c) fine
- d) annulment of the result of a match
- e) order that a match be replayed
- f) deduction of points
- g) awarding of a match by default
- h) playing of a match behind closed doors
- i) stadium ban
- k) playing of a match in a third country
- l) disqualification from competitions in progress and/or exclusion from future competitions.

² If a match is awarded by default, the result 3-0 applies, and away goals do not count double. If the goal difference is higher than 3, the result of the match actually played stands. If, after normal playing time, both teams have scored the same number of goals in both legs, under consideration of the awarding of the match by default, the team in whose favour the match is awarded by default goes through to the next round.

Article 15 - Disciplinary measures against individuals

The following disciplinary measures may be imposed against individuals in accordance with Article 54 of the Statutes:

- a) warning
- b) reprimand
- c) fine
- d) suspension for a definite number of matches or for a definite or indefinite period.
- e) suspension from carrying out a function for a definite number of matches or for a definite or indefinite period.

Article 16 - Confiscation

The disciplinary bodies may order the confiscation of pecuniary benefits earned from the violation of UEFA's rules and regulations.

D. Fixing of Penalties

Article 17 - General principles

¹ The disciplinary bodies determine the type and extent of the disciplinary measures to be imposed, according to the objective and subjective elements, under consideration of incriminating and exonerating factors.

² The disciplinary measures enumerated in Article 10 and 12 are standard penalties. In particular circumstances, they can be either scaled down or extended.

³ If the fallible party has incurred several disciplinary measures, the disciplinary body assesses the sanction according to the most serious offence and increases it accordingly.

Article 18 - Recidivism

¹ Recidivism occurs if disciplinary measures have to be imposed within five years of a previous offence.

² Recidivism counts as an aggravating circumstance.

Article 19 - Yellow cards in competitions for national representative teams

Cautions and pending yellow-card suspensions involving national representative teams expire on completion of the competition in question.

Article 20 - Yellow cards in club competitions

¹ Cautions and pending yellow-card suspensions from club competition matches expire at the end of the season.

² The season runs from 1 August of one year until 31 July of the following year. If club competition matches take place before 1 August, these will count as falling within the season starting 1 August.

PART TWO: DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

A. Organisation and Competence

Article 21 - Organs for the Administration of Justice

The Organs for the Administration of Justice are:

- a) as disciplinary bodies
 - the Control and Disciplinary Body
 - the Appeals Body
- b) the Disciplinary Inspector.

Article 22 - Election

Chairmen and members are elected by the UEFA Executive Committee, but may not belong to either this body or to any UEFA committee as stipulated in Article 35 of the Statutes.

Article 23 - Composition

¹ The Control and Disciplinary Body is composed of a chairman and nine members. It elects three vice-chairmen from among its ranks.

² It is authorised to take a decision if at least three members are present.

³ The Appeals Body is composed of a chairman and eleven members. It elects two vice-chairmen from among its ranks.

⁴ As a rule, the Appeals Body takes decisions in the presence of three members. In cases of particular difficulty or a prejudicial nature, the chairman may expand the quorum to five judges.

Article 24 - Judge sitting alone

¹ The chairman of the Control and Disciplinary Body or his nominee decides as a judge sitting alone if the sanction is limited to a warning, a reprimand, a fine of up to CHF 5,000, a player suspension or suspension from carrying out a function for up to two matches, as well as in particularly urgent cases.

² The chairman of the Appeals Body or his nominee can take a decision alone under clear factual and legal circumstances, in particularly urgent cases, and at the joint request of the parties.

Article 25 - Independence

The disciplinary bodies are independent. Their members are bound exclusively by UEFA's rules and regulations, the subsidiary law defined under Article 3 of the present regulations and their conscience.

Article 26 - Abstention

A member of an Organ for the Administration of Justice abstains if he himself, his association or a club belonging to that association is directly concerned. In case of doubt or dispute, the chairman or his nominee shall decide. Where a disciplinary inspector is concerned, the Chief Executive shall decide.

Article 27 - Competence

¹ The Control and Disciplinary Body handles disciplinary cases arising from the Statutes, regulations and decisions of UEFA which do not fall within the competence of another committee or body. It decides on eligibility to play.

² The Appeals Body is competent to hear appeals against decisions of the Control and Disciplinary Body in accordance with Article 49 of the present regulations.

B. Parties

Article 28 - Parties

¹ The parties comprise:

- a) UEFA
- b) the accused or the individual/body directly concerned
- c) the individual/body entitled to protest and the opponent to the protest.

² The individual/body directly concerned is the individual/body on whom/which the disciplinary measures have direct consequences.

Article 29 - Languages

In written and oral proceedings, the parties shall use one of UEFA's official languages.

Article 30 - Disciplinary Inspector

¹ The UEFA Executive Committee appoints the disciplinary inspectors and designates the Chief Inspector.

² Disciplinary inspectors represent UEFA in disciplinary proceedings. They can lodge appeals and cross appeals.

³ The UEFA Executive Committee, the UEFA President, the UEFA Chief Executive or the disciplinary bodies can commission disciplinary inspectors to conduct investigations.

C. General Provisions

Article 31 - Convocation, hearing

¹ The disciplinary bodies are convened by the chairman.

² The hearing takes place in UEFA's official languages. A party using a non-official language during a meeting has to request an interpreter at his own expense.

Article 32 - Administrative penalties

¹ Any participant whose conduct disrupts the orderly course of the proceedings can be reprovved by the chairman with a reprimand, an administrative fine of up to CHF 5,000, or be expelled from the meeting.

² Administrative penalties apply exclusively to individuals. They are incontestable. Except in the case of reprimands, such penalties must be recorded, with statement of the reasons, in the decision.

Article 33 - Office

¹ The UEFA Administration places an office and the necessary staff at the disposal of the organs for the administration of justice at UEFA's headquarters, and appoints a secretary to the organs.

² The secretary is the administrator, and takes the minutes of meetings.

Article 34 - Representation

¹ Member associations, clubs, players and officials can be represented.

² UEFA is represented by the disciplinary inspector.

³ Representatives must prove their authority by means of a signed power of attorney.

⁴ The disciplinary bodies decide on issues of representation.

Article 35 - Deadlines

¹ The time limit begins on the date after that on which it is announced in writing. It is considered respected if acted upon by 24.00 hours CET (Central European Time) on the deadline date.

² If a deadline is not respected, the defaulter loses the right to the proceedings in question.

³ On receipt of a substantiated request, the chairman can extend a deadline.

⁴ The present regulations define deadlines and/or time limits which cannot be extended.

Article 36 - Majority

¹ The disciplinary bodies decide by a simple majority, with no abstentions. In the event of a tie in any vote, the chairman shall have the casting vote.

² Members are bound to secrecy.

Article 37 - Publication

The Administration may publish a decision. It decides in what form the decision will be published.

D. Investigations

Article 38 - Scope

¹ The disciplinary inspector investigates violations of the UEFA Statutes, regulations and decisions.

² Such investigations are conducted by written inquiries and the examination of individuals. Other investigatory procedures can also be resorted to, such as expert opinions, close inspection, and documents.

³ The disciplinary inspector can appoint a member of the UEFA staff to act as secretary to the investigation.

Article 39 - Closing of investigations

¹ If the disciplinary inspector is of the view that no disciplinary offence has taken place, he closes the investigation.

² He issues a written decision to this effect.

Article 40 - Minutes

The disciplinary inspector shall take minutes of investigatory proceedings.

Article 41 - Re-opening of investigations

¹ An investigation can be re-opened if new evidence or facts emerge which imply a disciplinary offence.

² The re-opening of an investigation requires the approval of the UEFA President or the UEFA Chief Executive.

E. Control and Disciplinary Body Proceedings

Article 42 - Instigation of proceedings

¹ The instigation of proceedings is announced in writing to the parties concerned, in particular:

- a) On the basis of official reports.
- b) If a protest has been lodged.
- c) For reported violations of UEFA's Statutes, regulations and decisions.
- d) At the request of the UEFA President or the UEFA Chief Executive.

² If proceedings are instigated against individuals, the disciplinary office notifies the member association or club concerned, who are bound to inform the individual concerned in person. Notification is not necessary for expulsions from the field of play.

Article 43 - Declaration of protest

¹ Member associations and their clubs are entitled to protest. The party protested against and the disciplinary inspector have party status.

² Protests must reach the Control and Disciplinary Body in writing, stating the reasons, within 24 hours of a match.

³ The protest fee is CHF 1,000. It must be paid at the same time as the protest is filed.

⁴ This 24-hour time limit cannot be extended. For the sake of the smooth running of a competition, the corresponding competition regulations can shorten the protest deadline appropriately.

Article 44 - Reasons for protest

¹ A protest is directed against the validity of a match result. It is based on a player's eligibility to play, a decisive breach of the regulations by the referee, or other incidents influencing the match.

² Protests concerning the state of the field of play must be submitted to the referee in writing by the relevant official before the match. If the state of the field of play becomes questionable in the course of the match, the team captain must inform the referee, as well as the captain of the opposing team, orally without delay.

³ Protests cannot be lodged against factual decisions taken by the referee.

⁴ A protest against a caution or expulsion from the field of play after two cautions is admissible only if the referee's error was to mistake the identity of the player.

Article 45 - Clarification

¹ As a rule, the Control and Disciplinary Body clarifies the facts of the case, on the basis of the official reports. It can summon further evidence, provided that doing so will not delay the proceedings unduly.

² Exceptionally, the body can hear the accused.

Article 46 - Decision

¹ The Control and Disciplinary Body decides on:

- a) the halting of proceedings
- b) acquittals
- c) convictions
- d) the dismissal or acceptance of protests.

² Those concerned are notified of decisions by the disciplinary office in writing. Disciplinary measures against individuals are communicated only to the member association or club concerned.

³ If measures are pronounced, the notification contains a brief summary of the grounds, as well as the verdict and notice of the right to appeal. The notification is issued by fax.

Article 47 - Costs

¹ The costs of proceedings of the Control and Disciplinary Body are, as a rule, borne by UEFA. In cases of protest, they are borne by the defeated party.

² Costs caused abusively are charged to the party responsible.

F. Appeals Body Proceedings

Article 48 - Appeals

The Appeals Body deals with appeals lodged against decisions of the Control and Disciplinary Body.

Article 49 - Admissibility

¹ Appeals against decisions taken by the Control and Disciplinary Body are admissible, except in the case of:

- a) a warning
- b) a reprimand
- c) a fine of up to CHF 5,000
- d) suspension from carrying out a function for one competition match.

² If the Control and Disciplinary Body combines measures, an appeal is admissible if one of the measures exceeds the above exceptions. In this case, the Appeals Body examines the overall measure.

Article 50 - Power to appeal

¹ Those concerned and UEFA have the power to appeal.

² If a player, official or member of a member association or club is concerned, his member association or club alone cannot lodge an appeal, but must do so with the written consent of the individual concerned.

Article 51 - Delaying effect

¹ An appeal has no delaying effect.

² The chairman may, upon reasoned request, award a delaying effect on the appeal within the scope of the challenge, provided that such delaying effect does not appear inappropriate when taking all circumstances into account.

³ The request should be submitted together with the substantiated appeal statement at the latest.

Article 52 - Deadlines / Fee

¹ Appeals must be lodged with the UEFA Administration in writing, for the attention of the Appeals Body, within three days of the dispatch of the contested decision. They must be substantiated in writing within a further six days of the appeal being lodged.

² The appeals fee is CHF 1,000, payable on submission of the grounds of appeal at the latest. UEFA is exempt from this fee.

³ If these deadlines are not respected, the chairman will decide not to enter into the appeal. The deadlines stipulated in paragraph 1 above cannot be extended.

⁴ In urgent cases, the chairman can shorten the deadline for the submission of the grounds for appeal.

Article 53 - Content of the pleadings

The pleadings of the appeal contain:

- a) the legal request
- b) an account of the facts
- c) the evidence
- d) legal conclusions.

Article 54 - Reply to the appeal / Cross appeal

¹ The chairman notifies the opposing party of the appeal. Replies to the appeal must be submitted within the deadline set by the chairman, which cannot be extended.

² The reply to the appeal can include the declaration of a cross appeal. The procedural regulations of the appeal apply to the cross appeal.

³ The chairman sets a deadline by which time the appellant must reply to the cross appeal. This deadline cannot be extended.

⁴ The cross appeal is dropped if the appeal is retracted or declared inadmissible.

Article 55 - Identical requests

If the requests of the parties are identical, the Appeals Body complies with the request, provided that it is not obviously inappropriate.

Article 56 - Participation of the parties

¹ The chairman sets a date for the hearing without delay.

² The parties attend the hearing until the verdict is discussed. The chairman may, upon reasoned request, release a party from participation.

³ In the absence of one of the parties, the Appeals Body can also hold the hearing and take a decision.

Article 57 - Evidence

¹ The judge takes evidence on relevant facts.

² Evidence comprises:

- a) official reports
- b) Control and Disciplinary Body records
- c) examination of witnesses
- d) examination of the parties
- e) close inspection
- f) requested records and documents
- g) expert opinions
- h) television and video recordings.

³ The Appeals Body can summon further evidence.

⁴ The chairman decides in the preliminary proceedings on the examination of witnesses.

Article 58 - Witnesses

¹ All persons subject to UEFA jurisdiction are obligated to comply with a summons to appear as a witness.

² An administrative penalty can be imposed on anyone failing to comply with a summons.

Article 59 - Consultation of dossiers

The parties are entitled to examine the dossier or to order copies at their expense.

Article 60 - Hearings

¹ Appeals are dealt with in the form of hearings.

² Each party gives reasons for its requests. It is entitled to plead its case twice. The chairman decides on the sequence of pleadings.

³ If the first party to plead waives its right to plead for a second time, the pleading process is terminated.

⁴ If appeals proceedings are adjudicated upon by a judge sitting alone, the chairman may dispense with a hearing.

Article 61 - Deliberations

The Appeals Body deliberates behind closed doors.

Article 62 - Decision

¹ Within the framework of the appeal, the Appeals Body examines the case both factually and legally.

² The decision confirms, amends or lifts the contested decision.

³ If an appeal is lodged in favour of the accused, the decision cannot be amended to the disadvantage of the accused.

Article 63 - Costs

¹ The costs of the proceedings include all expenses of the Appeals Body. In accordance with the outcome of the proceedings, they are shared among the parties at fair discretion.

² The appeals fee is either offset or reimbursed.

³ Costs caused abusively are charged to the party responsible, irrespective of the outcome of the proceedings.

Article 64 - Notification of the decision

¹ The chairman notifies the parties of the decision orally and with brief grounds. It is subsequently issued in writing.

² In special cases, the verdict can be announced later in writing.

Article 65 - Referral back to the Control and Disciplinary Body

In the case of a fundamental mistrial, the Appeals Body can lift the decision, and refer the case back to the Control and Disciplinary Body for reassessment.

Article 66 - Legal force

Decisions of the Appeals Body are final, and become effective when announced.

PART THREE: EXECUTION

A. General Provisions

Article 67 - Competence

The UEFA Administration executes the decisions of the disciplinary bodies. It may order the member association concerned to execute a final disciplinary decision.

Article 68 - Competition categories

Match suspensions refer to a certain category of competition, with a distinction made between UEFA competitions for:

- a) club teams,
- b) national representative teams.

Article 69 - Enforceability

Disciplinary measures and directives are enforceable immediately, except for those of a financial nature.

Article 70 - Ordinary execution of suspensions

Suspensions are served in the same competition, unless they apply to all UEFA competition matches.

Article 71 - Extraordinary execution of suspensions

¹ If a suspension cannot be served in accordance with Article 70 of the present regulations, it will be served in the next age category up.

² A player who is suspended for a national-team competition match is not entitled to take part in a UEFA match of the same category that takes place the day before, on the same day as, or the day after the match for which he is suspended.

³ A match suspension is regarded as no longer pending if a UEFA competition match:

- a) is retroactively awarded by default,
- b) is abandoned before completion and not replayed.

⁴ In exceptional cases, the UEFA Administration decides.

Article 72 - Limitation

¹ Execution is barred:

- a) for exclusions from UEFA competitions
 1. after five years for one-season exclusions
 2. after eight years for two-season exclusions
 3. after ten years for exclusions in excess of two seasons;

- b) for stadium bans and matches to be played behind closed doors
 - 1. after five years for measures including one or two matches
 - 2. after eight years for measures including three or four matches
 - 3. after ten years for measures in excess of four matches;
- c) for the suspension of individuals
 - 1. after three years for one-match suspensions
 - 2. after six years for suspensions of two to six matches
 - 3. after eight years for suspensions in excess of six matches;
- d) after five years for all other disciplinary measures.

² The limitation on execution begins on 1 August after the season in which the disciplinary measure was imposed. The time limit comprises a definite number of years, calculated according to the UEFA season, i.e. from 1 August of one year to 31 July of the following year.

Article 73 - Guarantee of enforcement

Member associations are jointly liable for fines and the collection of pecuniary benefits and procedural costs imposed on their clubs or on players, officials or members of clubs. This joint liability requires a directive to be issued in accordance with Article 55 of the UEFA Statutes in conjunction with Article 13 of the present regulations.

B. Special Provisions

Article 74 - Adoption duty

FIFA and UEFA mutually adopt final disciplinary measures in the case of:

- a) Doping offences, bribery, match rigging or similar violations of the rules of football.
- b) Serious excessive conduct on the part of players or officials on the field of play, in particular assaults on the referee.
- c) Stadium bans – application of the ban in accordance with the given circumstances for one or both categories of competition (club competitions and/or competitions for national representative teams).
- d) Isolated cases, if the case files are shared.

FINAL CLAUSES

Article 75 - Equal treatment of men and women

The use of the masculine form in these regulations refers also to the feminine.

Article 76 - Cancellation of the previous Disciplinary Regulations

The disciplinary regulations of 15 September 2000 are no longer effective.

Article 77 - Entry into force

The present regulations enter into force on 14 January 2002.

Article 78 - Transitional provisions

Disciplinary offences which occurred before the present regulations came into force will be subject to the previous disciplinary regulations.

Article 79 - Authoritative text

Should the various language versions differ, the English text is authoritative.

For the UEFA Executive Committee:

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Nyon, 12 December 2001



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UEFA Disciplinary Regulations of 12.12. 2001

Règlement disciplinaire de l'UEFA du 12.12.2001

UEFA Rechtspflegeordnung vom 12.12. 2001

Amendments / Modifications / Änderungen

Article 12 para 1 / Article 12 al. 1 / Artikel 12 Abs. 1¹

¹ Any player who voluntarily or negligently uses banned substances or methods is suspended:

- a) for **at least 6 months** for the first doping offence;
- b) for **at least 12 months** for the first instance of recidivism;
- c) for more than **12 months** or indefinitely for the second instance of recidivism.

¹ Le joueur qui, intentionnellement ou par négligence, a recours à des substances ou méthodes interdites, sera suspendu pour:

- a) **au moins 6 mois** en cas de première infraction;
- b) **au moins 12 mois** en cas de première récidive;
- c) plus de **12 mois** ou pour une durée indéterminée en cas de deuxième récidive.

¹ Der Spieler, der sich vorsätzlich oder fahrlässig verbotener Substanzen oder anderer verbotener Mittel bedient, wird gesperrt:

- a) beim ersten Dopingverstoß **für mindestens 6 Monate**;
- b) beim ersten Rückfall **für mindestens 12 Monate**;
- c) beim zweiten Rückfall **für mehr als 12 Monate** oder für unbestimmte Zeit.

¹ **Amended** by decision taken by the UEFA Executive Committee on 23.04.2002

Modifié par décision du Comité Exécutif le 23.04.2002

Geändert durch Beschluss des Exekutivkomitees vom 23.04.2002