

## **Annex I – Special rules applicable to the qualifying phase and play-offs due to COVID-19**

**NB:** If there is any discrepancy between the rules of this Annex and the provisions to be found in the present regulations or in any other sets of rules adopted by the Executive Committee, the rules below prevail.

### **I.1 Venue and country restrictions**

I.1.1 UEFA will publish before each draw the list of known travel restrictions between countries, e.g. border closures and quarantine requirements (hereafter: restrictions). By 24:00 CET two days prior to the relevant draw clubs must - after consultation with their respective national association and national/local authorities - inform in writing the UEFA administration whether such known restrictions apply or if other previously unknown restrictions have been imposed by their respective national/local authorities that would impact the clubs' travelling. In absence of any information from the relevant club the list published by UEFA will be considered final.

I.1.2 If a club fails to inform the UEFA administration by 24:00 CET two days prior to the relevant draw of any existing restrictions other than those published by UEFA in accordance with paragraph I.1.1 that affect the organisation of the match and as a consequence the match cannot take place, the club in question will be held responsible for the match not taking place and the match will be declared by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body to be forfeited by the club in question, which will be considered to have lost it 3-0.

I.1.3 As a rule, matches are played at the UEFA approved venue of the home club. Based on the information on restrictions provided by the clubs in accordance with paragraph I.1.1, within 24 hours of (as applicable) either the relevant draw taking place or 24 hours upon qualification of the club for the relevant round:

(i) In case no restrictions apply to the match, the home club must confirm in writing to the UEFA administration and to the opponent club the venue, date and kick-off time of the match.

(ii) If restrictions imposed by the national/local authorities of the home club's country apply to the visiting club, the home club must propose a suitable alternative venue which may be in a neutral country (within the territory of a UEFA member association) that would allow the match to take place without any restrictions for both clubs. If the home club fails to propose such suitable alternative venue, the club in question will be held responsible for the match not taking place and the match will be declared by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body to be forfeited by the home club, which will be considered to have lost it 3-0.

(iii) If restrictions imposed by the national/local authorities of the visiting club's country apply to the visiting club's travel to play the match or its return home after the match, the home club must propose a suitable alternative venue which may be in a neutral country (within the territory of a UEFA member association) that would allow the match to take place and would not cause the visiting club any restrictions in either travel direction. If the home club fails to propose such suitable alternative venue, the UEFA administration will take a final decision on the match venue. The home club will remain responsible for the organisation of the match and both clubs will share the related costs in equal measure. If either club refuses to take part in the match, it will be held responsible for the match not taking place and the match will be declared by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body to be forfeited by such club, which will be considered to have lost it 3-0.

I.1.4 If, in the opinion of the UEFA administration, the information provided by the clubs on restrictions imposed by their national/local authorities (in accordance with paragraph I.1.1) is not accurate or is

insufficient, or the restrictions are not sufficient to require the reorganisation of the match in a neutral country (within the territory of a UEFA member association), the UEFA administration will take a final decision on the match venue. The home club will remain responsible for the organisation of the match and all related costs. If either club refuses to take part in the match, it will be held responsible for the match not taking place and the match will be declared by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body to be forfeited by such club, which will be considered to have lost it 3-0.

I.1.5 In all cases, after the relevant draw or upon qualification of the club(s) for the next round, the clubs may agree - subject to UEFA's approval - on a venue reversal or on a neutral venue (within the territory of a UEFA member association), provided that no restrictions apply and no city or stadium clash is caused with other UEFA fixtures.

I.1.6 Restrictions imposed by the national/local authorities of either club in a tie after the deadline for the clubs to inform the UEFA administration in accordance with paragraph I.1.1 shall, in principle, not be taken into account. In such cases, the club whose national/local authorities have imposed restrictions preventing the match from taking place as scheduled will be held responsible and the match will be declared by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body to be forfeited by such club, which will be considered to have lost it 3-0.

I.1.7 If in any of the above-mentioned cases, both clubs refuse to play or both are responsible for a match not taking place, the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body disqualifies the clubs concerned from the 2020/21 UEFA Champions League and 2020/21 UEFA Europa League.

I.1.8. In all cases, the venue of a match must be approved by the UEFA administration, which has the right to assign an alternative venue for any particular match. These decisions are final. In any event, the home club will remain responsible for the organisation of the match and all related costs.

## **I.2 Testing and player eligibility**

I.2.1 If one or more players or officials of a club test positive for COVID-19 in the tests required by the UEFA Return to Play Protocol, the match will take place as scheduled unless the national/local authorities of one or both clubs involved or of where the match will take place (in case of a neutral country) require a large group of players or the entire team to go into quarantine. If at least 13 players registered on the A list (including at least one goalkeeper) are available, the match must go ahead on the scheduled date. If less than 13 players registered on the A list or no registered goalkeeper are available, UEFA may allow a rescheduling of the match within the deadlines set out in paragraph I.3.1, if the relevant national/local authority seeks new tests to allow a sufficient number of players (at least 13 including at least one goalkeeper) to participate in the match. Alternatively, the club may field players who have not been registered with UEFA within the deadlines stipulated in the present regulations, provided that these players (i) are duly registered with their national association as playing for the club concerned in accordance with the association's own rules and those of FIFA and (ii) are tested negative in accordance with the UEFA Return to Play Protocol. If it is not possible to reschedule the match in accordance with the deadlines set out in paragraph I.3.1, the club that cannot play the match will be held responsible for the match not taking place and the match will be declared by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body to be forfeited by the club, which will be considered to have lost the match 3-0.

I.2.2 If any member of the appointed referee team for a match tests positive for COVID-19, UEFA may exceptionally appoint replacement match officials who (i) may be of the same nationality as one of the clubs, and/or (ii) may not be on the FIFA list.

## **I.3 Completion of the qualifying phase and play-offs**

I.3.1 In any case, the UEFA administration may reschedule matches of the qualifying phase or play-offs if this ensures a match is played and does not jeopardise the schedule of any forthcoming matches in the competition. Such decisions of the UEFA administration are final. The rescheduling of matches is subject to the following deadlines for the different stages of the competitions: (i) UCL PR: 14 August 2020; (ii) UCL Q1: 21 August 2020; (iii) UCL Q2: 11 September 2020; (iv) UCL Q3: 18 September 2020; (v) UCL PO 1<sup>st</sup> leg: 25 September 2020; (vi) UCL PO 2<sup>nd</sup> leg: 1 October 2020; (vii) UEL PR: 22 August 2020; (viii) UEL Q1: 12 September 2020; (ix) UEL Q2: 19 September 2020; (x) UEL Q3: 26 September 2020; (xi) UEL PO: 2 October 2020.

I.3.2 If, for any reason, the qualifying phase and/or play-offs cannot be completed, the UEFA Executive Committee will decide on the principles for determining the clubs qualified for the group stage.

#### **I.4 Deadlines for protests and appeals**

Protests lodged for any reason connected with the application of this Annex and declarations of appeal against a decision made by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body under the rules of this Annex must be lodged in accordance with the relevant provisions of the UEFA Disciplinary Regulations, with the exception of the following deadlines:

- a. a protest must reach the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body within 12 hours of the end of the match in question;
- b. if applicable, a declaration of appeal against a decision by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body must be lodged within 24 hours of notification of the relevant decision with grounds;
- c. if applicable, the Appellant must file the grounds of appeal within 2 days of the expiry of the time limit for the declaration of appeal.