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TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference

Your correspondence of

Our reference

Date

F/WF/nke/voz

27 April 2021

**2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League:
registration procedure, playing attire, player eligibility and financial provisions**

Dear Sir or Madam,

The 2021/22 season will be the first of the revamped UEFA Women's Champions League, which aims to raise the profile and visibility of the competition, improve competitive balance and commercial appeal and generate greater interest from the football fans and public at large. We are pleased to invite you to enter the number of clubs to which your association is entitled for the 2021/22 season.

For more information on the new competition landscape for the cycle 2021-25 please refer to UEFA circular 88/2019 and for the match calendar and access list for the 2021/22 season please refer to UEFA circular 77/2020. With regard to the latter, note that the UEFA Executive Committee, at their meeting of 19 April 2021 in Montreux, approved the competition regulations which include an updated access list featuring a preliminary round in case more than 50 associations enter clubs in the competition. The access list and match calendar, updated for a potential preliminary round, are available on uefa.com/womenschampionsleague/ and may also be found in Annexes A and C respectively of the competition regulations.

1. Information on entry

To assist with your preparations for the 2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League, please find enclosed information on the following:

- Registration procedure (Enclosure 1)
- Playing attire (Enclosure 2)
- Player eligibility (Enclosure 3)
- Deadlines (Enclosure 4)
- Use of the UEFA TIME platform (Enclosure 5)
- Information on COVID-19 and the 2021/22 UEFA club competitions (Enclosure 6)

As in previous years, details of the official registration procedure, playing attire and player eligibility have been combined in one circular letter, and this season there is also an enclosure specifying the requirements due to COVID-19. This will facilitate the handling of all processes with regard to

preparations for the 2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League and give you a better overview of the important procedures and deadlines, as well as avoiding unnecessary communications.

The electronic version of 2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League regulations can be found on the [UEFA documents](#) portal. Furthermore, the reasoning for the key amendments of the regulations, as well as further information on the competition, are available on the UEFA TIME platform for the attention of your participating club(s). This platform will also be used by clubs for a range of tasks during the UEFA Women's Champions League season. Details regarding access and login can be found in Enclosure 5.

As in previous years, we also enclose the deadlines for the 2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League (Enclosure 4), in accordance with the 2021/22 match calendar and the above-mentioned regulations. This provides a clear overview of the documents that need to be submitted to UEFA over the course of the season.

Should the situation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic lead to any kind of impact on the preparation and start of the 2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League, we will inform you accordingly via circular letter. In case of any impact, change or delay of domestic competitions, we kindly ask you to inform UEFA immediately.

In addition to the documents required for the entry procedure, please provide us with your domestic match calendars, including your domestic league and domestic cup competition dates for the next season. This will further facilitate our coordination of the various calendars and give us a complete picture of the dates used for European football, which we will then be able to share with all associations. Please email your domestic calendar for 2021/22 or 2022 to uwcl@uefa.ch.

2. Financial provisions

For the 2021-25 cycle, the UEFA Women's Champions League will be centralised as from the group stage. Consequently, a new distribution model has been approved by the UEFA Executive Committee at its meeting in Montreux on 19 April.

This distribution model is the result of a consultation process with a dedicated UEFA Women's Champions League regulatory framework working group consisting of clubs, leagues, national associations and the ECA. The model is based on an innovative approach and aims for long-term sustainability of the women's game and therefore not only rewards clubs in the centralised and non-centralised phase of the competition appropriately, but also benefits the whole of European women's football through solidarity payments to all top division clubs of the UEFA associations entering clubs in the competition.

Given that the media rights and sponsorship sales process is still ongoing, a circular letter will be issued before the start of the 2021/22 season to communicate the estimated amounts, with the final amounts only confirmed following the conclusion of the season. Nevertheless, we would like to give you an indication of the amounts that can be expected, in order to permit participating clubs to proceed with their budget planning. Although details on the payment schedule will be communicated in the circular letter, we can confirm that participating clubs will receive payments during the season with the balance payment made following the season conclusion.

The total amount available for distribution will be derived from:

- i) the net revenue of the UEFA Women's Champions League (the gross revenue received by UEFA from media and sponsorship contracts for the centralised phase of the competition minus the competition costs),
- ii) the sale of tickets for the final,
- iii) UEFA investment,
- iv) cross-financing from the UEFA men's club competitions.

The total amount will then be distributed to clubs participating in the centralised phase of the competition, clubs participating in the non-centralised phase of the competition and non-participating clubs.

At the current point in time, a **provisional** amount of EUR 24 million is available for distribution. This is foreseen to be allocated as follows.

Centralised phase – EUR 11.5 million

Stage	Distribution	EUR
Group stage	starting fee	400,000
	per win	50,000
	per draw	17,000
	bonus for group winner	20,000
Knock-out stage	quarter-finalists	160,000
	semi-finalists	180,000
	runner-up	200,000
	winner	350,000

Non-centralised phase – EUR 7 million

Stage	Distribution	EUR
Preliminary round	preliminary round teams	60,000
Round 1	host team	30,000
	visiting team	65,000
	bonus for winner	15,000
	bonus for runner-up	10,000
	bonus for 3 rd placed team	5,000
	bonus for 4 th placed team	1,000
Round 2	defeated team	140,000
	winning team	100,000

Solidarity payments – EUR 5.6 million

A key component of the new distribution model is the solidarity mechanism for non-participating clubs, ensuring that money invested into, or generated by, the UEFA Women's Champions League, will benefit the entirety of European women's clubs.

Under the solidarity mechanism, each association that has entered at least one club in the UEFA Women's Champions League will receive an amount to be shared equally amongst the clubs in their top domestic women's championship that are not competing in the competition. These funds are earmarked for development purposes and may not be used for the fixed and ordinary costs of the club. In the case of men's clubs with women's sections, proof must be provided to the association that the funds are used for development of the women's team. Further information on this will be communicated in the circular letter issued before the start of the season.

The solidarity mechanism has been developed to ensure a correlation between the sporting performance of clubs participating in the UEFA Women's Champions League and the solidarity share that non-participating clubs of the same country will receive as a result. The further a club – representing a country – progresses in the UEFA Women's Champions League, the higher the solidarity distributions allocated to all non-participating clubs in the top domestic women's championship of that country. Should an association have more than one club in the competition, the club that progresses farthest will be used for calculation of the solidarity payments. Given that the clubs' performances in the UEFA Women's Champions League are required to determine the total amount of solidarity funds for each association, amounts to non-participating clubs will be paid at the end of each sporting season.

Please also note that the UEFA administration will invite national associations, clubs and leagues to a meeting in due course in order to explain the above-mentioned distribution model, to provide indicative figures on the potential revenues distributed to each top division club at each stage of the competition, and to answer questions as required.

Long distance travel

In addition to the payments for the non-centralised phase, a contribution will be made to the ten clubs with the longest travel distances in the preliminary round, round 1 and round 2. These contributions will be funded from savings made in the group stage distributions (i.e. due to draws per match rather than wins per match), as well as from the access list rebalancing, if applicable. Consequently, the amount of the contributions will be determined, and payments made, after completion of the group stage.

UEFA officials

For all matches in the competition, the association of the host club, on behalf of UEFA, assumes the costs of the board and lodging of the referee team, the UEFA match delegate and the UEFA referee observer, as well as their transport costs within the territory of the association concerned. An amount of EUR 15,000 per mini-tournament or EUR 5,000 per match has been designated to cover these costs. The UEFA HatTrick incentive payment for participating in the competition should be used to cover the designated amounts in the first instance. If necessary, UEFA will make an additional contribution to cover the remaining amount. The additional contributions will be made at the end of the season.

Thank you in advance for giving your fullest attention to the information contained in this letter and its enclosures, and for your valuable cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

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Theodore Theodoridis
General Secretary

Enclosures

- Enclosure 1: Registration procedure
- Enclosure 2: Playing attire
- Enclosure 3: Player eligibility
- Enclosure 4: Deadlines
- Enclosure 5: UEFA TIME platform
- Enclosure 6: Information on COVID-19 and the 2021/22 UEFA club competitions

cc (with enclosures)

- UEFA Executive Committee
- UEFA Women's Football Committee
- European Club Association, Nyon
- European members of the FIFA Council
- FIFA, Zurich