



Enclosure 3

Player eligibility for the 2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League

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We would like to provide you with some additional information about applying the rules on player eligibility for the UEFA Women's Champions League 2021/22.

Please note that all player eligibility rules are set out in Chapter VII, Articles 45 to 47 of the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2021/22*. The only exception to this is in paragraphs 9 and 10 of this enclosure, where specific reference is made to the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

1. Responsibility

As a reminder, in all UEFA club competitions, the national associations and clubs are wholly responsible for observing the player eligibility requirements set out in the above-mentioned provisions and as explained below. Each player must be duly registered with their national association as playing for the club concerned, in accordance with the national association's own rules and those of FIFA, notably the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*. Neither the referee nor the UEFA match delegate is responsible for verifying the eligibility of players.

2. Medical examination

Players must undergo a medical examination in accordance with the mandatory criteria set out in the UEFA Medical Regulations (2020 edition). Confirmation that every player has undergone this examination must be recorded on the official player lists and all player lists must be signed by the club doctor. This includes List A, List B, and any players subsequently registered. The club doctor is solely responsible for ensuring that each player's medical examination has been duly performed.

The medical examination is an eligibility criterion, so a player is only eligible to play in the competition if the club doctor has confirmed that she has undergone the required medical examination. Provided that the player is included on the relevant official player list by the set deadline, confirmation of the medical examination may be sent after the registration deadline, but the player will only be eligible to play a match if the UEFA administration has been provided with this confirmation at least 24 hours before the match in question. For clarification, in the absence of such confirmation, the player concerned may not be replaced on the player list.

3. Player list quotas and guidelines

3.1. List A – goalkeepers

Each club may have a maximum of 25 players on List A at any point during the season. Clubs must respect the following rules when registering players on this list and may have to remove players if the requirements are not met:

- Clubs must include at least two goalkeepers on List A (and at least three in total across List A and List B).



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3.2. List B – youth players

An unlimited number of youth players who fulfil the conditions set out in the competition regulations may be registered on List B at any stage during the 2021/22 season. A national association must register these players with the UEFA administration by 24:00 CET on the day before the match in question. A player may be registered on List B if she was born on or after 1 January 2000 and has been eligible to play for the club concerned for any uninterrupted period of two years since her 15th birthday by the time she is registered with UEFA, or for a total of three consecutive years with a maximum of one loan period to a club from the same association for a period not longer than one year. Players aged 16 may be registered on List B if they have been registered with the participating club for the previous two years without interruption.

For List B players who have spent a period of time away from the club (and therefore whose 'at club since' date is not sufficient to verify their eligibility to be registered on a B list), full career details, including the exact dates of each transfer and/or loan (dd/mm/yy), must be indicated in the 'notes' field of the player list.

By way of clarification, a player on List A who fulfils the conditions for List B, or who subsequently becomes eligible for inclusion on List B, may be added to List B in accordance with the above conditions. However, in such instances, the place vacated on List A can only be filled at the next registration date.

As a reminder from paragraph 3.1 above, if List A contains only two goalkeepers, at least one goalkeeper must be registered on List B at all times.

4. 'At club since' date

The 'at club since' date on the player lists can be modified directly by the club or national association. Please note that this date is the most recent date on which the player was registered with the club (not the date on which she was first registered with the club if she has since left and returned).

For example, if a player was registered with Club A on 1 July 2020, then went on loan to Club B for six months, returning to Club A on 1 January 2021, her 'at club since' date on a player list for the 2021/22 season for Club A will be the date on which she returned from the loan – i.e. 1 January 2021.

For players who are registered on a club's B list and who temporarily left the club after the required two-year registration period, the exact dates of registration with the club in question must be provided in the 'notes' field of the player list, so that we can check that this player is eligible for List B.

5. Player registration deadlines

The deadlines for registering players and submitting player lists have been amended in line with the match calendar and can be found in Annex 1 at the end of this enclosure.



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For the preliminary round, round 1 and round 2, a club may register for each round a maximum of two new eligible players on List A after the relevant round's player registration deadline. Such registrations have to be made by means of the A2 Excel form (and not through the TIME platform) and must be completed by 24:00 CET on the day before the start of the mini-tournament or relevant first-leg match. The club's national association must also have confirmed in writing that the new player is eligible to play at domestic level at that time.

6. Playing for different clubs

6.1 Preliminary round, round 1 or round 2

Application of paragraph 45.07 of the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2021/22*

- This paragraph applies to a player who is fielded in the preliminary round, round 1 or round 2 of the competition.
- A player who is fielded in these rounds is eligible to play for another club from the group stage as long as she is registered with her new club by the deadlines laid down in the competition regulations (30 September 2021 or 17 March 2022).

6.2 Registration of new players on 17 March 2022

Application of paragraphs 47.01 and 47.02 of the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2021/22*

Clubs are entitled to register a maximum of three new eligible players from the quarter-finals. All three new players may have been fielded in the competition during the same season, i.e. in the preliminary round, round 1, round 2 or the group stage of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2021/22.

Finally, please note that paragraph 47.01 of the regulations relates to the eligibility of players for the UEFA Women's Champions League, irrespective of whether they are already registered with the club for domestic competitions. Therefore, a player who has not been registered with UEFA and who will replace another player on List A, will have to be registered as one of the three new eligible players.

7. Replacement of injured or ill goalkeepers

An injured goalkeeper may be replaced on List A in accordance with the conditions set out in Article 47.04 of the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2021/22*. An illness or injury is considered long-term if, in the opinion of the UEFA Medical Committee, it is expected to last at least 30 days from the day it started/occurred. In the event that an injured goalkeeper is replaced on List A in accordance with this provision, but then subsequently recovers before the end of the 30-day period, she cannot be reinstated on the player list in place of her substitute until after the 30 days have elapsed.

8. January transfers and loan agreements

It has been observed that, on occasion, a player is transferred from one club to another in January and then immediately loaned back to the original club for the remainder of the season. For clarification, in such situations, UEFA must be notified of the player's movements. Given that she has officially left her



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original club, she must be removed from its player lists, and when she is loaned back she is regarded as one of the three new players who can be registered in March.

9. International transfer certificate

In recent years, UEFA has regularly received queries from clubs about how to interpret the rules governing player registration in the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League*, which actually refer in this respect to the national association's own rules and to the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players* (hereinafter: FIFA regulations), more specifically to those laid down in Annexe 3 'Transfer matching system' (TMS) thereto. We would therefore like to inform you that the UEFA administration has adopted the following approach:

- a) The player lists to be submitted to the UEFA administration may include a player for whom an international transfer certificate (ITC) has not yet been issued by her former association, but for whom an ITC was requested during the new association's national registration period and, at the very latest, by the deadline set out in the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2021/22* for the submission of player lists (see paragraph 8.1.2 of Annexe 3 of the FIFA regulations).
- b) A player is, however, not eligible to participate for her new club in the UEFA Women's Champions League until the ITC has been created by her former association (see paragraph 8.2.8 of Annex 3 of the FIFA regulations). UEFA may check in the FIFA TMS to see whether the ITC has been created by the former association.
- c) Additionally, a player, who is registered by her new association on a provisional basis due to the latter not having received any response by the former association after 7 days as from the relevant ITC request in accordance with paragraph 8.2.6 of Annex 3 to the FIFA regulations, is considered eligible to participate in the UEFA Women's Champions League for her new club.

Furthermore, if the FIFA Players' Status Committee decides to authorise the new association to provisionally register the player with her new club (in accordance with paragraph 8.2.7 of Annexe 3 to the FIFA regulations), the player in question is considered eligible to participate in the UEFA Women's Champions League for her new club as soon as written confirmation of the decision has been transmitted by the new club to the UEFA administration.

Finally, for clarification, if a club includes on its list – by the set deadline – a player for whom an ITC has been requested but not yet created, this player may not be replaced on the list in the event that the ITC is not subsequently created by the former association.

10. Registration periods

As an increasing number of women football players are becoming professionals, UEFA is observing a significant increase in the number of international transfers involving clubs participating in the UEFA Women's Champions League. All the rules governing these transfers can be found in the FIFA regulations and all international transfers are dealt with by FIFA. Article 45.02 of the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2021/22* stipulates that these FIFA regulations have to be respected if a player is to



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be registered for the UEFA Women's Champions League. To make sure every club and national association is aware of these rules, they are explained below.

The rules in the FIFA regulations apply to the registration of male and female professional and amateur players. However, associations are allowed to fix registration periods for women's football that are different from those for men's football. Should any association want to do so, the following conditions must be met:

- a) The association concerned must notify FIFA of the specific registration periods for women's football in advance, prior to the start of the relevant season or of the first of the registration periods in question, and clearly mark them as the registration periods for women's football.
- b) The association must comply with Article 6.1 of the FIFA regulations, i.e. two annual registration periods for women's football must be fixed and female players may only be registered during these two periods. Associations may fix different registration periods for their men's and women's competitions.
- c) The registration periods fixed for women's football must also comply with the compulsory prerequisites under Article 6.2 of the FIFA regulations, i.e. the first registration period may not exceed twelve weeks and the second registration period may not exceed four weeks.

Furthermore, an association is allowed to fix different registration periods for amateur players, but only for competitions reserved exclusively for amateur players (see Article 6.4 of the FIFA regulations). Again, the association concerned must notify FIFA in advance of the specific registration periods for purely amateur competitions. However, when an amateur player is transferred from a club affiliated to one association to a club affiliated to another association (international transfer) and maintains the status of amateur player, the ITC for this player may only be requested during the relevant registration period of the new association as described below.

Consequently, when registering players for the UEFA Women's Champions League, bear in mind which registration periods apply.

Should you have a league with **only amateur players**:

1. If registration periods for amateur female players have been announced to FIFA, these registration periods apply.
2. If registration periods for amateur female players have not been announced to FIFA, as a general rule the registration periods for women's professional football apply (if any, and if announced to FIFA in due time); otherwise, the registration periods for men's professional football apply.

Article 2.2 of the FIFA regulations stipulates that a professional player is a one who has a written contract with a club and is paid more for her footballing activity than the expenses she effectively incurs. Consequently, should you have a league comprising one or more clubs with **one or more professional**



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players, even if an amateur is transferred internationally into this league while keeping her amateur status:

1. If registration periods for women's professional football have been announced to FIFA, these registration periods apply.
2. If registration periods for women's professional football have not been announced to FIFA, the registration periods for men's professional football apply.

Finally, we would draw your attention to the new provisions in the FIFA regulations relating to female players that have taken maternity leave. Specifically, as an exception to Article 6.1 of the FIFA regulations, a female player may be registered by an association outside of a registration period to temporarily replace a female player that has taken maternity leave (see Article 6.1 a)). Similarly, a female player may be registered by an association outside of a registration period upon completion of her maternity leave, subject to her contractual status (see Article 6.1 b)). Associations shall adapt their domestic rules accordingly in order to permit these exceptions.

11. Duty to notify the UEFA administration

During the course of the season, the national associations are required to notify UEFA **immediately** in writing of the departure (i.e. as a result of a transfer or loan) of any players from clubs taking part in the 2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League. This notification must indicate the date of the transfer or loan and the club to which the player has been transferred or loaned. Any player who is transferred or loaned from a participating club must be removed from the player list, and a new player can only be added to the list at the next registration date.

Similarly, a player who has been removed from a player list because she has been loaned to another club can only be registered again on the player list at the next registration date.

UEFA must also be notified as soon as possible about any change of head coach or first assistant coach, including details of the coaching qualifications of the new coach.

12. Squad list updates

As in the past, clubs are able to modify their squad lists directly in the player registration system. Any player who is no longer registered with a club can be removed from the squad list by the club player registration manager. The player's departure date from the club must be entered.

13. List of suspended players

Before the start of the season, the UEFA administration will send each national association a list of players and coaches who have pending suspensions to be served during the 2021/22 season. The national association is responsible for forwarding this list to its participating clubs. This list should be consulted if players or coaches are transferred, and UEFA's disciplinary services will be happy to provide you with



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additional information on this matter if required. As a reminder, for all UEFA club competitions, only players who are duly registered with UEFA can serve pending UEFA suspensions.

14. Contact information

For any questions regarding player eligibility or the player registration system in TIME, please contact the UEFA Football Operations Unit at: players@uefa.ch.

– Annex 1: Player registration deadlines for the 2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League



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Player registration deadlines for the 2021/22 UEFA Women's Champions League

Competition stage	Match dates	Deadline for player registration and submission of player list to UEFA
Preliminary round	28/29 July and 4/5 August 2021	22 July 2021 (24.00 CET)
Round 1	18 and 21 August 2021	12 August 2021 (24.00 CET)
Round 2	31 August/1 September and 8/9 September 2021	26 August 2021 (24.00 CET)
Group stage onwards	From 5 October 2021	30 September 2021 (24.00 CET)
Quarter-finals onwards	From 22 March 2022	17 March 2022 (24.00 CET)