



No. 49/2021

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of
the president and the general secretary

Your reference

Your correspondence of

Our reference
RIG/baw/mpt

Date
16 July 2021

Decision of the UEFA Executive Committee related to the amendments of the UEFA Minimum Health & Hygiene Requirements for the Return of Spectators / Information regarding the UEFA testing programme

Dear Sir/Madam,

We would like to provide you with some important information concerning the rules applicable to UEFA competition matches established within the framework of the pandemic.

UEFA Minimum Health & Hygiene Requirements for the Return of Spectators v3 (MHHRRS):

On 11 July 2021, the UEFA Executive Committee approved further amendments to the MHHRRS, which were initially adopted on 1 October 2020 and amended on 31 March 2021.

The latest amendments are a result of the adaptations required in light of the changing pandemic situation, as well as the evaluation of the operational implementation of these minimum requirements at UEFA competition matches. The approved changes to the enclosed MHHRRS mainly focus on adjustments made taking into account current practices and the learnings from UEFA matches staged since the last amendments in March 2021.

In particular, we would like to draw your attention to the amendments in the following sections:

- Sections 4 and 6 of the MHHRRS:

For certain rounds of the UEFA Women's Champions League, and also for matches of the men's and women's youth competitions, matches are allowed to take place in Category 1 stadiums, which are permitted to have standing sectors. Therefore, it was approved to amend Sections 4 and 6 of the MHHRRS to reflect the fact that for the applicable rounds of these competitions, spectators may be accommodated in sectors with standing areas.

Additionally, Section 6 has been amended to reflect the decision to reduce the minimum distance required from team delegation seating areas / organisational staff working areas to any spectator areas from 4.5m to 2m. Similarly, if broadcast/media working positions are accommodated in the tribune due to the COVID operational requirements, it was approved to no longer require a fixed 4.5m distancing between spectators and these areas, but instead to require that the match organiser ensures appropriate distancing between spectator areas and these working positions to allow the broadcast/media operations to take place safely and without unnecessary disturbance. This may allow a reduction in the total number of seats that need to be blocked to create buffer zones between spectators and team or working areas. These changes were approved with the agreement of UEFA's medical experts, and do not compromise the safety of team delegations and/or working personnel.

- Section 12.5.2 of the MHRRS:

Considering the different rules and regulations applicable across the UEFA member association territories, it was approved to amend Section 12.5.2 of the MHRRS to leave the decision on use of masks by spectators to the relevant competent authorities.

UEFA testing programme:

As communicated in the enclosed circular letter no. 34/2021 dated 14 May 2021, the UEFA Protocol Advisory Panel (UPAP) is currently closely monitoring the evolution of the overall vaccination status within the countries of all 55 UEFA member associations. However, in order to be able to give further recommendations on any potential amendments to the UEFA testing programme, the UPAP requires a more detailed insight into the data of immunised individuals (i.e. those who are either fully* vaccinated and/or previously infected) within team delegations.

Therefore, we would kindly request you to provide us with the following information from all men's, women's, youth and futsal top division clubs within your country, focussing the information on the sporting delegations, i.e. players and coaching, technical and medical staff. The information is to be entered and updated on a regular basis (at least every two weeks until the relevant team has reached the threshold of 90% vaccinated/previously infected members) in the TIME Organisation Passport in each team's profile, under the "COVID-19 Survey" tab:

- Number of fully* vaccinated team delegation members (indicating what percentage of the entire team sporting delegation this represents);
- The brand(s) of vaccine used;
- Number of previously infected team delegation members within the current calendar year (indicating what percentage of the entire team sporting delegation this represents).


* An individual is to be viewed as fully vaccinated if they are considered as such by the competent national authority of the country where the individual was vaccinated and/or the country of the individuals' residence.

In this respect, we would once again like to emphasise that vaccination is a vital measure in the fight against the virus and is highly encouraged by the health authorities. This is supported by the fact that many countries are easing their travel restrictions for fully vaccinated people. UEFA therefore recommends all teams to pursue vaccination options as soon as reasonably available in their respective country as it might not only help them overcoming exiting travel restrictions but also potentially to avoid testing requirements in the future.

We would like to thank you for taking note of the above and for providing us with the above requested information which will be crucial for the development and change of the UEFA testing program as established under the UEFA Return to Play Protocol v4 for all future UEFA competition matches.

Yours faithfully,

UEFA



Theodore Theodoridis
General Secretary

Enclosures

- UEFA Minimum Health & Hygiene Requirements for the Return of Spectators v3
- Circular letter no. 34/2021 (14 May 2021)

cc (with enclosures)

- UEFA Executive Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- UEFA honorary members
- UEFA Club Competitions Committee
- UEFA Medical Committee
- UEFA National Team Competitions Committee
- UEFA Women's Football Committee
- FIFA, Zurich