



No. 01/2022

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference	Date
		F/NTC/KLL/neg	10 January 2022

Special COVID-19 rules

Amendments to the Regulations of

- **2020-22 UEFA European Futsal Championship**
- **2021/22 UEFA European Women's Futsal Championship**
- **2022-24 UEFA European Qualifying Competition for the 2024 FIFA Futsal World Cup**

Dear Sir or Madam,

In view of the forthcoming futsal final tournaments and start of the qualifying competition for the 2024 FIFA Futsal World Cup, and in order to guarantee the continuity and smooth running of these competitions, the UEFA Executive Committee, at its meeting on 16 December 2021, approved the following amendments to the regulations in line with the changes made to other UEFA competitions in 2021:

UEFA Futsal EURO – Final Tournament in The Netherlands

Annex D – Special rules applicable to the final tournament due to COVID-19

1. Should a group of players of a team be placed into mandatory quarantine or self-isolation following a decision of "the authority", the match will go ahead as scheduled as long as the team has at least seven players available (including at least one goalkeeper), irrespective of any other provision of the relevant competition regulations (including the deadline for the submission of the list of players), provided that all players are eligible to represent the national team in accordance with Article 40 of the competition regulations and have been tested negative as required by the UEFA Protocol. Any additional player called up to meet the minimum of seven players requires that an equivalent number of quarantined players are definitively withdrawn from the 14-player list.
2. If a national association is not in a position to field a team with the above-mentioned minimum number of players (i.e. seven, including at least one goalkeeper), the match may, if possible (i.e. subject to viable rescheduling options being available), be rescheduled within the next 24 hours of the date of the relevant match by the UEFA administration, which shall also have the power to assign the rescheduled match to an alternative venue.

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3. If the match cannot be rescheduled, the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body (CEDB) will take a decision on the matter. The national association that is responsible for the match not taking place will be declared by the UEFA CEDB to have forfeited the match and will be considered to have lost the match 5-0.
 4. If any member of the appointed referee team for a match tests positive for Covid19, UEFA may exceptionally appoint replacement match officials who may be of the same nationality as one of the national associations concerned and/or may not be on the FIFA list.

UEFA European Women's Futsal EURO – Final Tournament in Portugal

Annex D – Special rules applicable to the final tournament due to COVID-19

1. Should a group of players of a team be placed into mandatory quarantine or self-isolation following a decision of "the authority", the match will go ahead as scheduled as long as the team has at least seven players available (including at least one goalkeeper), irrespective of any other provision of the relevant competition regulations (including the deadline for the submission of the list of players), provided that all players are eligible to represent the national team in accordance with Article 35 of the competition regulations and have been tested negative as required by the UEFA Protocol. Any additional player called up to meet the minimum of seven players requires that an equivalent number of quarantined players are definitively withdrawn from the 14-player list.
2. If a national association is not in a position to field a team with the above-mentioned minimum number of players (i.e. seven, including at least one goalkeeper), the match may, if possible (i.e. subject to viable rescheduling options being available), be rescheduled within the next 24 hours of the date of the relevant match by the UEFA administration, which shall also have the power to assign the rescheduled match to an alternative venue.
3. If the match cannot be rescheduled, the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body (CEDB) will take a decision on the matter. The national association that is responsible for the match not taking place will be declared by the UEFA CEDB to have forfeited the match and will be considered to have lost the match 5-0.
4. If any member of the appointed referee team for a match tests positive for Covid19, UEFA may exceptionally appoint replacement match officials who may be of the same nationality as one of the national associations concerned and/or may not be on the FIFA list.

2022-24 UEFA European Qualifying Competition for the 2024 FIFA Futsal World Cup

Annex B – Special rules applicable to mini-tournaments 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 UEFA Executive Committee, the rules below prevail.

B.1 Travel requirements

All teams participating in mini-tournaments are recommended to travel by charter flight and/or by private buses. If mini-tournaments or matches take place in UEFA-approved neutral venues, teams may be required to travel by charter flight, subject to the applicable rules of the relevant country.

B.2 Venue and country restrictions

B.2.1 All teams organising mini-tournaments must ensure that matches can be played in UEFA-approved venues between 4 and 13 April 2022. National associations must cooperate with the relevant authorities in order to obtain exemptions from existing travel restrictions, such as border closures and quarantine requirements, to ensure the mini-tournaments can take place as scheduled.

B.2.2 If, nonetheless, a national association is unable to obtain such an exemption, it shall confirm in writing to the UEFA administration any travel restrictions that would impact its staging of, or travel to/from, the relevant mini-tournament no earlier than six weeks but at the latest four weeks before the start of the mini-tournament in question. Teams must immediately inform UEFA of any change to travel restrictions or exemptions secured after the above-mentioned deadline.

B.2.3 As a rule, mini-tournaments are played at the venues approved by the UEFA administration. If restrictions imposed by the national authorities could result in one or more mini-tournament matches not taking place as scheduled, the following applies:

- (i) If, by the deadline stipulated under Annex [B.2.2](#) either of the following travel restrictions apply:
- Provisions imposed by the national authorities of the host country restrict one or more of the visiting teams from entering the country; or
 - Provisions imposed by the national authorities of one or more of the visiting teams' countries restrict their teams from travelling to the mini-tournament venue or returning home after the mini-tournament;

and if moving the mini-tournament to the country of one of the other national associations in the group would allow the mini-tournament to take place without any such restrictions, the venue and hosting responsibilities will be transferred accordingly.

(ii) If Annex B.2.3(i) cannot be applied, the host association must propose a suitable alternative venue or venues, that would allow the mini-tournament to take place and would not cause any of the visiting teams any restrictions in either travel direction. Alternative venues may be in a neutral country but must be within the territory of a UEFA member association. If the host association fails to propose such suitable alternative venue(s) the UEFA administration will take a final decision on the mini-tournament venue(s) and/or mini-tournament dates. The host association will remain responsible for the organisation of the mini-tournament and all teams will share in equal measure any additional costs not covered by the UEFA contribution scheme. If any association refuses to take part in the mini-tournament, it will be held responsible for the relevant mini-tournament matches not taking place and the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body will declare such matches forfeited by the association concerned. If the host association refuses to take part, the UEFA administration will take a final decision on the mini-tournament venue(s) and date(s) and will assign responsibility for the organisation to the participating association with the highest coefficient.

B.2.4 In all cases, the teams may agree – subject to UEFA’s approval – on a change of venue to venue(s) located in the country of one of the other teams in the group or on neutral venue(s) (within the territory of a UEFA member association and in compliance with Annex [B.2.3](#)), provided that no restrictions apply to any of the participating teams.

B.2.5 If, in the opinion of the UEFA administration, the information provided by the teams on restrictions imposed by their national authorities (in accordance with Annex [B.2.2](#)) is not accurate or is insufficient or received too late, or the restrictions are not sufficient to require the reorganisation of the mini-tournament to the country of another participating team or to a neutral country (within the territory of a UEFA member association), the UEFA administration will take a final decision on the mini-tournament venue(s) and/or mini-tournament dates as well as on which team(s) has/have to bear the costs related to the reorganisation of the mini-tournament. In any case, the host team will remain responsible for the organisation of the mini-tournament. If any team refuses to take part in the mini-tournament, it will be held responsible for the relevant mini-tournament match not taking place and all match(es) of the team in question will be declared by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body to be forfeited by such team, which will be considered to have lost the match(es) by 5-0. Should the host team refuse to take part in the mini-tournament, the UEFA administration will take a final decision on the mini-tournament or match venue(s) and date(s) and will reassign responsibility for the organisation to the team with the highest coefficient unless the mini-tournament is played in the venue(s) of one of the other participating teams in which case this national association assumes the responsibility of the organisation.

B.2.6 If a team fails to inform the UEFA administration of any existing restrictions that affect the organisation of a mini-tournament match and as a consequence the mini-tournament or some matches cannot take place or be rescheduled, the team in question will be held responsible for the mini-tournament or matches not taking place and all match(es) of the team in question will be declared by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body to be forfeited by such team, which will be considered to have lost the match(es) by 5-0. Should this require the reorganisation of the remaining mini-tournament matches in a neutral country (within the territory of a UEFA member association), the UEFA administration will take a final decision on the mini-tournament or match venue(s) and date(s) and will assign responsibility for the organisation to the team with the highest coefficient unless the mini-tournament or match is played in the venue(s) of one of the other participating teams in which case this association assumes responsibility. If it is the host association that has failed to inform the UEFA administration of any existing restrictions that affect the organisation of the mini-tournament, and as a consequence the entire mini-tournament cannot take place or be rescheduled, the team in question will be held responsible for the mini-tournament not taking place and the matter will be referred to the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body who will take a decision on the disciplinary measures deemed appropriate in accordance with the UEFA Disciplinary Regulations.

B.2.7 In all cases, the venues of mini-tournaments must be approved by the UEFA administration, which has the right to assign alternative venues for any particular mini-tournament or even to decide that the mini-tournament should be rescheduled (in accordance with Annex [B.4.1](#)) and/or played in a neutral country (within the territory of a UEFA member association). These decisions are final. In any event, the host association will remain responsible for the organisation of the mini-tournament matches and all teams will share in equal measure the resulting additional mini-tournament costs above the UEFA contribution to the mini-tournament host.

B.2.8 Entry restrictions applicable to teams upon return from a mini-tournament to their home country, regardless of which venue within the territory of the UEFA member association would be used, are not taken into consideration within the scope of the above-mentioned provisions.

B.3 Testing and player eligibility

B.3.1 If one or more players or officials of a team test positive for COVID-19 in the tests required by the UEFA Return to Play Protocol, the match(es) will take place as scheduled unless the national authorities of the host association/host country or, in case of a neutral host country, the authority of the country where the match will take place require a large group of players or the entire team to go into quarantine. If at least 7 players registered on the players list (including at least one goalkeeper) are available, the match(es) must go ahead on the scheduled date(s). If less than 7 players registered on the players list or no registered goalkeeper are available, UEFA may allow a rescheduling of the match, if the relevant national authority seeks new tests to allow a sufficient number of players (at least 7 including at least one goalkeeper) to participate in the match. Alternatively, the team may field players who have not been registered with UEFA within the deadlines stipulated in the present regulations, provided that these players (i) are eligible to play in the relevant competition and (ii) are tested negative in accordance with the UEFA Return to Play Protocol. If it is not possible to reschedule the match(es) within the final deadline set out in Annex [B.4.1](#), the team that cannot play the match(es) will be held responsible for the match not taking place and the match(es) will be declared by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body to be forfeited by the team, which will be considered to have lost it by 5-0. Moreover, the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary Body may take further disciplinary measures if the circumstances so justify.

B.3.2 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 teams, and/or (ii) may not be on the FIFA list.

B.4 Completion of the preliminary round

B.4.1 In any case, the UEFA administration may reschedule matches, if this ensures all matches are played and allows the preliminary round to be completed by 5 June 2022 at the latest. Such decisions of the UEFA administration are final.

B.4.2 If, for any reason, any mini-tournament in the preliminary round cannot be staged or completed in accordance with this Annex B, the UEFA Executive Committee will decide on the principles for determining the teams qualified for the next round.

B.4.3 Any unforeseen circumstances related to this Annex will be dealt with in accordance with [Paragraph 57.01](#) of the present regulations.

B.5 Deadlines for protests and appeals

B.5.1 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:

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- 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.

All regulations have been updated and are available on the platform <https://documents.uefa.com>.

We thank you for noting the above decisions.

Yours faithfully,

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Theodore Theodoridis
General Secretary

cc

- UEFA Executive Committee
- UEFA Futsal & Beach Soccer Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- FIFA, Zurich