



Specific operational provisions and guidelines applicable to UEFA Youth Competition matches v4

1. Preamble

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 1 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

The UEFA Return to Play Protocol (the UEFA Protocol) sets out the framework of medical, sanitary and hygiene procedures and operations protocols to be applied when staging UEFA competition matches. Due to differences in the preparation and delivery of UEFA youth competition matches the provisions included in this document shall apply in addition to the UEFA Protocol.

2. Objectives

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 2 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

The aim of this document is to complement the UEFA Protocol with specific operational provisions and a dedicated testing programme applicable to competitive football matches of UEFA national youth team competitions (U19, WU19, U17 and WU17).

3. Scope of application

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 3 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

These specific provisions apply to all UEFA youth competition matches set out under the Objectives of this document until further notice, in conjunction with the applicable relevant competent national/local authority legislation and requirements.

Non-compliance with the obligations set out in the UEFA Protocol and these specific provisions may lead to disciplinary measures in accordance with the *UEFA Disciplinary Regulations*.

The annexes form an integral part of this document.

6. UEFA Testing Programme

6.3. Accredited testing service provider

The following text replaces the corresponding text of Section 6.3 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

The relevant target groups are responsible to select an accredited testing service provider to conduct the testing required as per the UEFA testing programme. If necessary, UEFA may, upon request, provide

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assistance with the organisation of the relevant testing using its appointed laboratory diagnostics service provider (hereinafter “UEFA Testing Service Provider” (TSP)).

Self-administered Lateral Flow Antigen Tests (Lateral Flow Tests) must be sourced by each team for their own use during a mini-tournament. If a team has any issue sourcing Lateral Flow Tests or in transporting them to the host country, then they should contact the host association who must help the team in question source sufficient Lateral Flow Tests at retail price.

Team doctors will be responsible for the sampling, performing the tests, and interpreting the results of any Lateral Flow Tests for their own team delegation. These tests must be carried out in the presence of the UEFA Match Delegate (UMD) and/or other UEFA-appointed representative.

The mini-tournament host association must source sufficient Lateral Flow Tests for use (free of charge) by all members of Groups 2 & 3.

6.5 Single match testing requirements

Section 6.5 of the UEFA Protocol, as applicable from time to time, is deleted for the purposes of this document.

6.6. Tournament testing requirements

The following text replaces the corresponding text of Section 6.6 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

6.6.1. Mini-tournament testing – before 1st matchday of each MT

Group 1:

Members of the team falling under Category B are subject to SARS-CoV-2 RNA testing including PCR (polymerase chain reaction)-based tests or any equivalent clinically validated tests based on nucleic acid amplification technology (PCR Test) not earlier than MD-3 of the teams’ 1st match of the MT with an accredited testing service provider. The team is responsible to organise and bear the cost of the sample collection and testing.

If required by the authorities, an additional test will be necessary on arrival in the host country/city. If not covered by the authorities, this test is to be paid for by the relevant team themselves.

Members of the team falling under Category A are in principle not subject to any further testing within the framework of entering Zone 1 for UEFA matches. However, it remains within the sole responsibility of the team to verify ahead of travelling to any match venue in another country if all individuals of the team which fall under Category A are permitted to enter the country and/or the stadium. In case any additional entry requirements are applicable, the team is responsible for complying with such rules in order to be able to enter the relevant country/stadium and participate in the respective UEFA match.

Group 2 and Group 3:

Individuals falling under Category B must undergo a PCR Test not earlier than MD-3 of the first match of the relevant MT. Members of this group have to organise their own testing with an accredited testing service provider.

Members of Group 2 and Group 3 falling under Category A who are travelling internationally must undertake a Self-Administered Lateral Flow Antigen test (Lateral Flow Test) before travelling, on the day of their departure to the match venue country.

Members of Group 2 and Group 3 falling under Category A who are based locally to the match venue country must undertake a Lateral Flow Test on the first day they would go to the stadium, before travelling to the venue.

If required by the authorities, an additional test will be necessary on arrival in the host country/city. In this case, a sampling time must be arranged that allows results to be delivered at the latest 6 (six) hours prior to kick-off time (local time) on the day of the match.

All members of Group 2 and Group 3 must additionally comply with any potential additional stadium entry requirements applicable in the country/region of the match venue.

6.6.2. Mini-tournament testing – before 2nd & 3rd matchday of the MT

All members of Groups 1, 2 and 3 in Category B must perform a Lateral Flow Test on the day before each subsequent match (i.e. MD2-1 and MD3-1).

6.6.3. Final tournament testing

The testing schedule for Groups 1, 2 and 3 will be communicated to the participating teams in due course.

6.7. Zone 1 venue entrance requirements

The following text replaces the corresponding text of Section 6.7 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

Mini-tournament MD1

In order to be granted access to Zone 1 of the relevant UEFA match venue for MD1, on MD1-1 each member of the team delegation must present to the UMD a photo ID, accompanied by a Digital COVID-19 certificate or an official certification issued by the relevant competent authorities which proves that the individual:

- is fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2;
- has recovered from COVID-19; or
- has received a negative PCR Test conducted not earlier than MD-3 of the team's first match of the mini-tournament.

Members of Group 2 and 3 must present the same documentation on arrival at the stadium.

Mini-tournament MD2 & MD3

At MD2 and MD3 of a mini-tournament, for Group 1, the Team Doctor must complete and sign a Mini-tournament Zone 1 Entry COVID-19 Declaration Form (see Annex C) before each match. This declaration form, which must be submitted to the UMD on MD-1, certifies that all members of the team delegation entering into Zone 1 either:

- are in the possession of a Digital COVID-19 certificate or an official certification issued by the relevant competent authorities which proves that the individual is fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2 or has recovered from COVID-19; or
- have carried out on MD-1 a Lateral Flow Test and received a negative result.

For Group 2 and Group 3, all members must present on arrival at the match venue a photo ID accompanied by either:

- a Digital COVID-19 certificate or an official certification issued by the relevant competent authorities which proves that the individual is fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2 or has recovered from COVID-19; or
- a signed declaration form confirming that they have carried out on MD-1 a Lateral Flow Test and received a negative result (see Annex D).

6.9 Mini-tournament COVID-19 support

The following text is an addition to Section 6 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

Before each mini-tournament, the host association must announce a point of contact with the authorities that teams must liaise with in case of positive Lateral Flow Tests.

In case of a positive Lateral Flow Test from someone in Group 1 during a mini-tournament, the team MLO must immediately inform the identified contact person, and the UMD, of this test result.

In case of a positive test result from someone in Group 2 or Group 3 during a mini-tournament, the person concerned must contact the nominated contact person within the authorities as communicated before the start of the mini-tournament. Members of Group 2 must additionally inform the UEFA MLO.

Any person receiving a positive Lateral Flow Test result must immediately be quarantined, and undergo an PCR Test to confirm or not the positive result. In this regard the host association must assist the relevant team (Group 1) or individual (Group 2 & 3) with contacting an accredited testing institute. If applicable, the costs of such test(s) for members of Group 1 are to be borne by the relevant team delegation, while the costs of the PCR Test for Group 2 or Group 3 are borne by the individual in question. The result of the PCR Test will define if the individual can or cannot attend the match.

UEFA PROTOCOL: OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES

The following inclusions complement or replace the corresponding text in the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

10.2 Team official delegation

The team's official delegation (e.g. team president, board of directors etc) travelling with the players and technical staff must be kept to an absolute minimum.

12 Hotels

Ideally, an exclusive hotel, or alternatively an exclusive floor or wing of a hotel, should be reserved for the sole use of each visiting/participating team during their stay. When selecting mini-tournaments hotel(s) and allocating teams to hotel(s), hosts must consider the hotel(s)' ability to:

- implement all applicable principles set out in this document and the UEFA Protocol;
- segregate players/technical staff from different teams.

The host association must make arrangements to prevent any close contact between the teams and other guests or staff. This should include:

- Where possible, one private individual dining area for each team
- If the above is not possible, one large private dining area divided into separate areas for each team

Food should be served by the team's own staff and/or as few hotel staff as possible, with food placed on a table and collected by the players/coaches/trainers. Where buffets are served, one station per team should be prepared. No clean-up is to take place until the entire delegation has left the dining areas so that the smallest number of hotel staff is present in the dining room during meals.

14 Stadium Operations

As a specificity for youth competition mini-tournaments, hosts sometimes choose to schedule two matches on the same day in the same stadium (double-header matches). In this case, when setting kick-off times for double-header matches using the same dressing rooms and technical facilities, hosts must ensure there is enough time between matches so that Zone 1 can be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and aired out after teams have left after the first match, and before teams arrive for the second match. In practice this may require allowing up to approximately six hours between the kick-off times of the two matches.

14.6.1 Dressing rooms

Dressing room areas for the teams and technical staff must optimise physical distancing and air circulation. Depending on the actual size of the dressing room, additional nearby rooms or spaces may therefore also have to be used. Ideally, a room or area should be set aside for the team's technical staff and equipment that is separate from the player's changing areas.

If additional rooms or alternative solutions cannot be found at the stadium to respect the physical distancing and air circulation, the teams and referees' team are strongly encouraged to:

- Prepare the match tactics at the hotel
- Arrive at the stadium already wearing the playing attire

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- Use of the dressing rooms in alternance without going over the maximum capacity
- After the match, if possible, take the shower in the hotel unless this poses a risk to the player's health due to the climatic and temperature conditions

Cleaning of dressing rooms, team benches and technical areas

The dressing room areas, team access routes (corridors, door handles, handrails, etc.) team benches and technical seats (including any additional seating used to maintain physical distancing) must be thoroughly disinfected before the team arrives on MD-1 (if applicable), between the team training sessions on MD-1 (if applicable) and prior to the match. Once the dressing rooms have been disinfected prior to team arrivals, no one may enter until the teams arrive other than tested team support staff, e.g. team kit staff.

For double-headers (see Section 14 intro above), Zone 1 must be disinfected again immediately after T2 of the first match.

Dressing room catering

Teams must agree with host association on the supply of food and drinks to the dressing rooms and each team is responsible for ensuring that any food and drink deliveries adhere to all hygiene requirements and minimise any risk of contamination.

15 Match operations

15.1 Stadium/Zone tours and mini-tournament organisational meeting

Mini-tournaments

Before the first match of each mini-tournament, the host association must organise a tour of all the stadiums used during the tournament for the UMD, the match/venue manager and the HO. On request of the visiting team(s), the host association may also organise a Zone 1 tour for them.

The number of people attending the mini-tournament organisational meeting must be limited to the strict minimum. The UMD(s), the main contacts of the participating teams, the teams' PCOs and the host's HOs must attend the meeting. All other participants must attend remotely in a videoconference organised by the host.

15.2 Official reception and education seminars

The official lunch/dinner is not mandatory. The event and the number of participants should be agreed between the teams in advance and due consideration should be given to use of masks and physical distancing, especially for indoor events.

It is not recommended to organise official events, such as receptions (e.g. players party). In any case, the event(s) and the number of participants should be agreed between the host and the teams in advance and due consideration should be given to physical distancing. No one who is either part of, or in close contact with, the team's tested pool should attend these events.

Educational seminars, such as match-fixing prevention presentations, will be held. Teams must ensure all players have access to and participate in these sessions.

If official events are organised, they must adhere strictly to the rules and requirements of the national health authorities.

15.3 Ball Children

The host association decides the ball recovery and replacement system to be used for the matches based on the stadium configuration.

Annex C – Mini-Tournament Zone 1 Entry COVID-19 Declaration Form – Group 1



Mini-tournament COVID-19 Declaration Form

Zone 1 Entry – Group 1

Mini-Tournament Zone 1 Entry: COVID-19 Declaration Form

I, the undersigned, Dr _____, team doctor of _____, hereby certify that all members of the team delegation included in the attached list, related to the match _____ **vs** _____ do not show any signs of COVID-19 related symptoms at the present time and that each of those members is either:

- i) fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2; or
- ii) has recovered from COVID-19; or
- iii) has received a negative SARS-CoV-2 test in compliance with the following requirements:
 - a. *Before MD1:* SARS-CoV-2 PCR test conducted not earlier than MD-3;
 - b. *Before MD2 & MD3:* a rapid lateral flow antigen test conducted on MD-1 in accordance with the testing principles for UEFA youth competition matches.

In the event any of the above requested information is incorrect, inaccurate or incomplete, UEFA reserves the right to take further actions against the undersigned doctor and, if necessary, their respective team organisation.

Date: _____ **Place:** _____

Signature (team doctor): _____

UEFA delegate / UEFA-appointed representative

Name: _____

Signature: _____

[NB: This form must be signed on MD-1 by both the team doctor and the relevant UEFA representative. If not attended by the UEFA Delegate, the form must be provided to the UEFA Delegate at the latest by 10:30am MD morning. The UEFA Delegate must email a copy of each form to covid19testing@uefa.ch including the match name and "Zone 1 Entry declaration" in the email subject line.]

Annex D – Mini-Tournament Zone 1 Entry COVID-19 Declaration Form – Group 2 & 3



Mini-tournament COVID-19 Declaration Form

Zone 1 Entry – Group 2 & 3

COVID-19 Rapid Lateral Flow Antigen Test Declaration Form

I, the undersigned, _____, in my official working capacity related to the match _____ **vs** _____ certify that I do not show any signs of COVID-19 related symptoms at the present time and that I meet one of the following requirements:

- i) I am fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2; or
- ii) I have recovered from COVID-19; or
- iii) I have received a negative SARS-CoV-2 test in compliance with the following requirements:
 - a. *Before MD1*: SARS-CoV-2 PCR test conducted not earlier than MD-3;
 - b. *Before MD2 & MD3*: a rapid lateral flow antigen test conducted on MD-1 in accordance with the testing principles for UEFA youth competition matches.

In the event any of the above requested information is incorrect, inaccurate or incomplete, UEFA reserves the right to take further actions against the undersigned doctor and, if necessary, their respective team organisation.

Date: _____ **Place:** _____

Signature: _____

[NB: This form must be signed and presented at the entrance to the stadium.]



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