



2024/25 UEFA Youth League

In the context of your preparations for the upcoming 2024/25 UEFA Youth League, we would like to give you additional information regarding the new format established for the competition, the official registration procedure, and the eligibility and registration of players.

1. **New competition format**

The new format gives more youth players experience of international football and assists in their transition from the youth team to professional football. The competition has two paths, as indicated below.

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE PATH

The 36 clubs playing the UEFA Champions League are also entitled to take part in the UEFA Youth League, in a league phase where they play the same opponents as in the UEFA Champions League (League phase) from matchday one to six.

DOMESTIC CHAMPIONS PATH

The domestic youth champions of all eligible national associations (domestic champions path) drawn up in accordance with Annex A of the Regulations of the UEFA Youth League 2024/25 have the opportunity to enter their domestic youth champions in a distinct knockout path, from which ten teams will qualify to play in the knockout phase against teams qualified from the UEFA Champions League path.¹

If a domestic youth champion club has also qualified for the competition via the UEFA Champions League, its youth team will participate in the UEFA Champions League path and the vacancy in the domestic champions path will be filled by the runner-up if it does not qualify for the competition. In case the runner-up has qualified via the UEFA Champions League path, the vacancy is not filled, and the access list is rebalanced accordingly with priority given to the club of the best ranked association of the relevant round in the access list.

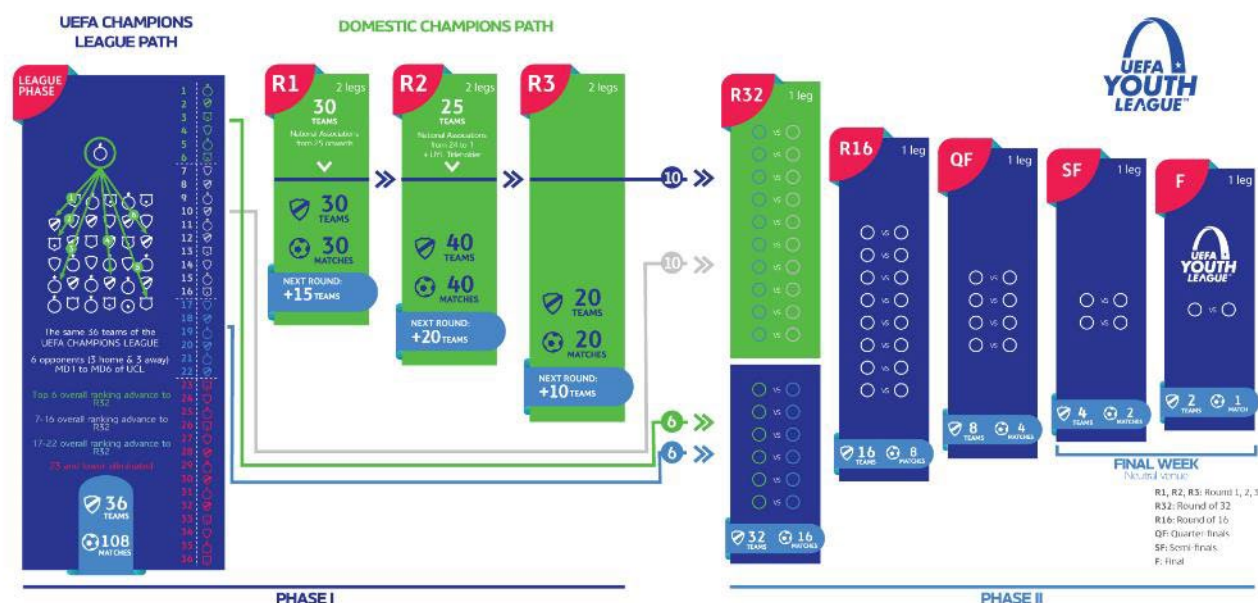
For further information on the competition format, please refer to Chapter II of the UEFA Youth League Regulations 2024/25.

¹ Access to the Domestic Champions (DCH) path has been extended to domestic youth champions from all UEFA national associations (having at least a national youth championship between the ages of U17-U19). The clubs will enter the DCH path either in the first or second round according to the ranking of their association in the UEFA men's club competitions access list. The final access list will be defined at the beginning of every season once the final number of participants and the titleholder are known.

The invitation to participate in the above-mentioned competitions does not apply to Russian clubs due to the ongoing suspension of all Russian teams and clubs from UEFA competitions until further notice, as decided by the UEFA Executive Committee on 28 February 2022 (see Circular Letter No. 21/2022) and confirmed by the Court of Arbitration for Sport on 15 July 2022.

Enclosure 4

2023/24 UEFA Youth League



2. Competition registration procedure

For detailed further information on the official registration procedure, **please refer to Enclosure 1 of this circular letter.**

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE PATH

On entering the 2024/25 UEFA Champions League (through the submission of the official entry form by the relevant national association), participating clubs agree, if qualified for the league phase of that competition, to take part in the 2024/25 UEFA Youth League (UEFA Champions League path) with one of their youth teams in accordance with the regulations governing this competition (see Articles 3 and 4 of the Regulations of the UEFA Youth League 2024/25 and Article 6.01(p) of the Regulations of the UEFA Champions League 2024/25).

DOMESTIC CHAMPIONS PATH

The domestic youth champions of all eligible national associations (see Enclosure A of the Regulations of the UEFA Youth League 2024/25) also have the opportunity to enter their domestic youth champions in the UEFA Youth League. The associations in question must submit the relevant admission criteria form and a duly signed entry form on which the relevant club is indicated.

AGE CATEGORY OF THE DOMESTIC CHAMPIONSHIP

As per the Club Competition Committee decision national associations retain the freedom to determine the age category (i.e. U17, U18 or U19) of their domestic championships that give access to the UEFA Youth League. However, the national associations' choice for season 2024/25 will apply for the entire three-year cycle (2024/27).

The deadlines have been set as follows:

UEFA Youth League registration

All national associations are requested to confirm the UEFA administration (by email to entry@uefa.ch) no later than **17 May 2024** which of its domestic youth championships (i.e. which age category) will offer access to the UEFA Youth League in accordance with the aforementioned section. If this domestic youth championship will not be finished before **3 June 2024**, please inform the UEFA administration immediately (also by email to entry@uefa.ch).

Online UEFA Youth League venue announcement

To be completed online by the national association in the stadium venue announcement section on the TIME platform for all clubs that could potentially qualify for the UEFA Youth League: **3 June 2024**.

Stadium matters

(Stadium, safety certificate, floodlighting certificate, football (artificial) turf certificate)

For all clubs that could potentially qualify for the UEFA Youth League: **3 June 2024**.

3. Player eligibility, registration, and other new key amendments

Information relating to player eligibility and registration for the UEFA Youth League can be found in Articles 28 and 29 of the Regulations of the UEFA Youth League 2024/25.

The UEFA Youth League is an Under-19 competition. Therefore, a player is eligible for inclusion on the 2024/25 UEFA Youth League player list if he was born on or after 1 January 2006. Additionally, a maximum of **five** club-trained U20 players (born on or after 1 January 2005) can be included in the overall list of 40 players available for the competition, provided that certain criteria are fulfilled (see Article 29.06 of the Regulations of the UEFA Youth League).

Each club will be invited to register a list of **40 players** at the start of the season in the player registration section in TIME. This list must be submitted by the club to its respective national association and then forwarded to UEFA, as explained in the Enclosure 3 of this circular letter and Article 29.01 of the Regulations of the UEFA Youth League.

For each match in the competition, each participating club must enter a **shortlist of 20 players** in the TIME platform the day before the match (see Article 29.07 of the Regulations of the UEFA Youth League).

As a minimum, **14 places** on that 20-player shortlist are reserved exclusively for players who have been eligible to play for the club concerned without interruption for the two years immediately preceding the match in question or have been eligible to play for the club concerned for two of the three years immediately preceding the match in question and registered with a maximum of one other club from the same association for an uninterrupted period of up to one year for the other one.

With regards to the match procedures, please be informed that a maximum of **five substitutes** listed on each team's match sheet to take part in the match. Each team however, may make their substitutions on no more than three separate occasions during the match. A player who has been substituted may take no further part in the match.

Before each match, each team must confirm, using the match sheet, the 20 players in the team and up to 10 team officials, one of whom must be a team doctor.

4. **Contact**

Cooperation between associations and clubs has been a key factor in the competition's success so far. We are counting on you, once again, to keep creating and maintaining a great platform and experience for your youth players.

To optimise communication between the various parties concerned, in conjunction with the pre-registration process mentioned above, it is important for each club to review the contact information of its key personnel for the UEFA Youth League. Therefore, each club must review the following positions in the TIME organisation passport and update as necessary by **17 May 2024**:

At "Teams" level > Youth:

- key contact person
- matchday operations contact
- stadium and security contact
- match ball recipient contact
- contact person for visiting clubs
- disciplinary key contact
- team doctor

Should you have any questions or need more information concerning the UEFA Youth League, please feel free to contact us:

Club Competitions matters: ClubCompetitions@uefa.ch

Football Operational matters: UYLMatchOps@uefa.ch.