



Playing attire for the 2020/21 UEFA Women's Champions League

To assist you with your preparations for the new season, we would like to provide you with some key information about equipment worn in UEFA club competition matches.

This enclosure explains some of the principles of the [UEFA Equipment Regulations, 2018 edition](#) that we feel warrant clarification, as well as some of the key provisions of the regulations.

As a preliminary note, the term 'playing attire' as used in this enclosure comprises the playing shirt, shorts and socks of outfield players and goalkeepers.

1. UEFA Equipment Regulations, 2018 edition

Unless otherwise specified in the UEFA Women's Champions Leagues regulations, the *UEFA Equipment Regulations, 2018 edition* apply.

The *UEFA Equipment Regulations* apply from the quarter-finals. They explain the size and location of team, manufacturer and sponsor identifications, badges, numbers and players' names as well as provisions regarding undershirts or shorts, goalkeeper gloves, wristbands, hats and player tracking systems.

2. Approval process

For all matches up to and including the round of 16, the domestic equipment regulations of the relevant association apply, provided that the sponsor advertising on the playing attire complies with the *UEFA Equipment Regulations* and the playing attire has been approved for and worn in domestic competition matches. In other words, UEFA restrictions with regards to number, size and position of sponsor logos or manufacturer identifications do not apply to the playing attire or non-playing attire used by players and officials until teams arrive at the quarter-finals.

However, for the quarter-finals and beyond, teams may only use playing attire that complies with the *UEFA Equipment Regulations* and has been approved by UEFA.

Each team taking part in the competition must submit a copy of the official **playing attire approval form** to uwclmatchops@uefa.ch by the following deadlines:

- **2 September 2020** for teams playing in the qualifying round
- **7 October 2020** for teams that qualify directly for the round of 32
- **3 February 2021** for teams playing in the round of 16 for the kit to be used for the quarter-finals in case of their qualification

Given the insufficient time to conduct playing attire approval between the conclusion of the round of 16 and the quarter-final matches, all teams playing in the round of 16 must send samples of all playing attire that would be used in the quarter-finals, in case they qualify (i.e. first and second-choice outfield player shirts, shorts and socks, first and second-choice goalkeeper shirts, shorts and socks, as well as any supplementary outfield player and goalkeeper attire) to UEFA by **3 February 2021**.

Samples must contain all elements as they will be used in the competition, i.e. numbers, letters, team/sponsor/manufacturer logos, and badges.

UEFA will inspect the playing attire and provide the teams and associations with a written decision as soon as possible after this deadline. UEFA will not return the submitted playing attire samples.

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To limit the risk of having to make changes once playing attire has already been produced, we encourage teams and manufacturers to submit designs or samples for pre-approval at any time during the production process. Such pre-approval is always subject to final approval of the actual articles as specified above. Requests for pre-approval can be submitted by email to uwclmatchops@uefa.ch.

Finally, when sending playing attire samples to UEFA for approval or pre-approval, we would ask you to indicate the **production costs** of the relevant items and **not** the retail costs on the shipping invoice, to ensure a smooth shipping and delivery process. Please mark the samples:

For the attention of Cátia Relíquias, Match Operations Coordinator:

Match Operations Unit / Football Division
UEFA
Rte de Genève 46
CH-1260 Nyon 2

3. Playing attire colours

Clear identification of the outfield players and goalkeepers of the two teams is a requirement of Law 4 of the IFAB Laws of the Game. This is essential for the match officials and players, as well as for spectators in the stadium and at home, and we consider it a fundamental requirement.

Each team must therefore have at least two outfield player attires in sufficiently contrasting colours that could be worn by opposing teams in a match. For example, if one outfield player attire is made up of predominantly light colours, the other outfield player attire should comprise predominantly dark colours.

Teams with striped shirts (especially ones made up of light and dark stripes) or shirts in two colours (e.g. sleeves of a different colour to the body) must pay particular attention to the contrast requirements. For example, a first choice of blue/white stripes with a second choice of an all-white shirt is not sufficient. The second choice must contrast strongly with both colours of the first-choice shirt. If this is not the case, a third-choice outfield player attire will be required.

Additionally, teams must have, as a minimum, two goalkeeper attires that must not only contrast fully with each other (shirts, shorts and socks), but that must also contrast fully with the outfield player attires. The goalkeeper attires must not, therefore, contain any of the colours contained in either outfield player attires, or be of similar shades (e.g. white outfield playing attire and light-grey goalkeeper attire). This also applies to any additional player attires submitted. In other words, teams must ensure that for every outfield player attire submitted, they submit a minimum of two fully contrasting goalkeeper attires. If goalkeeper attires are submitted that contain the colours of the playing attires (e.g. same colour shorts and socks) then additional goalkeeper colours will be requested.

4. Playing attire colour selection

When selecting colours for the 2020/21 season, particularly goalkeeper colours, please bear in mind that there is a limited number of colours available to referees, for which the following colours will be used in the 2020/21 UEFA Women's Champions League:

black, red, yellow, light blue.

In order to facilitate the planning of match playing attire agreements, we strongly recommended that each team avoid selecting goalkeeper attires that include more than one of the referee colours.

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5. Combination of playing attire options

Teams must be prepared to combine elements of their approved outfield playing attires, or approved goalkeeper attires if necessary. The primary objective must be the clear distinction of the teams on the pitch. Commercial or aesthetic objections to combining attire items **will not** be taken into account by UEFA to achieve the required contrast between different match participants.

6. Definition of colours by match

For the qualifying round and early knockout rounds, teams are expected to agree on their colours between themselves. If they cannot do so, however, the matter must be referred to the UEFA administration in order to avoid an issue on the day of the match. However, the referee is always entitled to take a final decision.

As of the quarter-finals, in order to facilitate team preparations, to ensure the playing attire colours offer the best possible contrast for all parties and to avoid last-minute disagreements, the following procedure is followed:

- a) The UEFA administration proposes colours to the teams by email before each match.
- b) The teams may request changes within a specific deadline.
- c) The UEFA administration takes such requests into account where possible and issues a final decision.
- d) Only the referee, if not satisfied with the colour contrasts, is entitled to amend this decision. Teams may not request changes on the day of the match.

The priority levels for the agreement on the playing attire colours are as follows:

- a) Home team outfield player attire
- b) Visiting team outfield player attire
- c) Home team goalkeeper attire
- d) Visiting team goalkeeper attire
- e) Referee attire

If there is a clash between any of the above participants that cannot be resolved (i.e. if none of the approved sets of attire offer a good colour contrast), the other participants may have to change (in reverse order, from e) to a)) until a suitable contrast can be found. For example, if there is no available referee colour with sufficient contrast, the visiting team goalkeeper's attire would be the first to change, and so on. Similarly, if none of the visiting team's outfield player attires contrast with the home team's chosen outfield player attire, the home team would be obliged to adapt.

7. Numbers and names

All shirts and shorts submitted to UEFA for approval must include an example of the numbers and letters that will be used.

Legibility and strong contrast of the number against the shirt are essential for the playing shirts. Reflective numbers are difficult to see under floodlights and may be refused, as may overly elaborate player numbers which are not easily and quickly identifiable.

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As a reminder, shirt numbers must be of a single colour, with the only exception being that they may contain a contrast key line or shadow outline. Numbers may also contain breathing holes or lines of a maximum 2mm width. Please note that the size of numbers does not include the contrasting outlines.

8. Decorative elements

For the avoidance of any doubt, the principles related to decorative elements that may be used on the playing attire, which are set out in Article 12 of the *UEFA Equipment Regulations*, are applied in the same way to non-playing attire used in the final.

9. Player boots

For the avoidance of doubt, football boots and shoes worn by players and/or technical staff may carry manufacturer branding only. Boots may not contain any sponsor advertising or charity logos.

10. Goalkeeper gloves

10.1. Safety

In light of new designs and technologies in goalkeeper gloves, we take the opportunity to remind you of the importance of player safety with regard to goalkeeper gloves. In this regard, the following guidelines apply:

- Fastenings such as zips for goalkeeper gloves may only be made with soft materials for the zip tag (no metal or hard plastic)
- The toggle or device to pull any zip or similar fastening must be covered under a velcro or other similarly securely fastened cuff to hold it in place during the match

10.2. Branding

There are still many issues with goalkeeper gloves used during matches that do not comply with the regulations. To improve compliance, all goalkeeper gloves that may be used during the match (i.e. the gloves of both the first-choice goalkeeper as well as any substitute/reserve goalkeepers) must be brought to the organisational meeting for inspection during the playing attire colour check. The gloves will then be checked again during the pre-match equipment inspection 75 minutes before kick-off. If it is noticed, either during the pre-match equipment inspection or during the match itself, that goalkeepers are wearing gloves that were not presented at the organisational meeting and that these do not comply with the regulations, then this will be included in the reporting and disciplinary consequences will ensure. To avoid issues arising on matchdays, we therefore strongly encourage you to ensure before the start of the season that your goalkeepers are all using gloves that comply with the *UEFA Equipment Regulations*.