



## Enclosure 3

### Player eligibility for the 2020/21 UEFA Women's Champions League

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We would like to provide you with some additional information about applying the rules on player eligibility for the UEFA Women's Champions League 2020/21.

Please note that all player eligibility rules are set out in Chapter VII, Articles 40 to 42 of the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2020/21*. The only exception to this is in paragraphs 7 and 8 of this enclosure, where specific reference is made to the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

#### 1. Responsibility

As a reminder, in all UEFA club competitions, the member associations and clubs are wholly responsible for observing the player eligibility requirements set out in the above-mentioned provisions and as explained below. Each player must be duly registered with their national association as playing for the club concerned, in accordance with the national association's own rules and those of FIFA, notably the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*. Neither the referee nor the UEFA match delegate is responsible for verifying the eligibility of players.

#### 2. Medical examination

All players taking part in the 2020/21 UEFA Women's Champions League must undergo a pre-competition medical examination as detailed in Articles 4, 5 and 6.01 of those regulations, i.e. up-to-date medical records, annual medical exam, and annual ECG. Should you have any questions concerning these medical examinations, please contact [medical@uefa.ch](mailto:medical@uefa.ch). Confirmation that every player has undergone this examination must be recorded on the official player lists and all player lists must be signed by the club doctor. This includes any players subsequently registered. The club doctor is solely responsible for ensuring that each player's medical examination has been duly performed.

The medical examination is an eligibility criterion, so a player may only play in the competition if the club doctor has confirmed that she has undergone the required medical examination. Provided that the player is included on the official player list by the set deadline, confirmation of the medical examination may be sent after the registration deadline, but the player will only be eligible to play a match if the UEFA administration has been provided with this confirmation at least 24 hours before the match in question. For clarification, in the absence of such confirmation, the player concerned may not be replaced on the player list.

#### 3. List of players

Each club may have a maximum of 25 players on the player list at any point during the season, three of whom must be goalkeepers. Clubs must respect this rule when registering new players and may have to remove certain players from the list so that they do not exceed the authorised number.



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#### 4. Player registration deadlines

The deadlines for registering players and submitting player lists have been amended in line with the match calendar and can be found in Annex 1 at the end of this enclosure.

#### 5. Playing for different clubs

##### 5.1 Qualifying round

Application of paragraph 40.07 of the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2020/21*

A player who is fielded in the qualifying round is eligible to play for another club from the round of 32 as long as she is registered with her new club by the deadlines laid down in the competition regulations (5 November 2020 or 25 February 2021).

##### 5.2 Registration of new players on 25 February 2021

Application of paragraphs 42.01 and 42.02 of the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2020/21*

Clubs are entitled to register a maximum of three new eligible players from the round of 16. All three new players may have been fielded in the competition during the same season, i.e. in the qualifying round or round of 32 of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2020/21.

Please note that paragraph 42.01 of the regulations relates to the eligibility of players for the UEFA Women's Champions League, irrespective of whether the player was already registered with the club for domestic competitions. Therefore, a player who was not registered with UEFA and who will replace another player on the player list, will have to be registered as one of the three new eligible players.

#### 6. Replacement of injured or sick goalkeepers

An injured goalkeeper may be replaced on the player list in accordance with the conditions set out in Article 42.04 of the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League*. An illness or injury is considered long-term if it is expected to last at least 30 days from the day it started/occurred. In the event that an injured goalkeeper is replaced on the player list in accordance with this provision, but then subsequently recovers before the end of the 30-day period, she cannot be reinstated on the player list in place of her substitute until after the 30 days have elapsed.

#### 7. International transfer certificate

In recent years, UEFA has regularly received queries from clubs about how to interpret the rules governing player registration in the *Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League*, which actually refer to the national association's own rules and to the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players* (hereinafter: FIFA regulations), in particular those laid down in Chapter III of the FIFA regulations [Registration of Players] and Annexes 3 and 3a. We would therefore like to inform you that the UEFA administration has adopted the following approach:

- a) The player lists to be submitted to the UEFA administration may include a player for whom an international transfer certificate (ITC) has not yet been issued by her former association, but for whom



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an ITC was requested during the new association's national registration period and, at the very latest, by the player list submission deadline set out in the Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2020/21 (see paragraph 8.1.2 of Annexe 3 and paragraph 2.2 of Annexe 3a of the FIFA regulations).

- b) A player is, however, not eligible to participate in a UEFA Women's Champions League match with her new club until the ITC has been issued by her former association (see paragraph 2.1 of Annexe 3a and paragraph 3.1 of Annexe 3a as well as Article 9.1 of the FIFA regulations). UEFA may check in the FIFA Transfer Matching System (TMS) to see whether the ITC has been issued by the former association and reserves the right to request a copy of the ITC from the new association at any time.
- c) A player may not participate in a UEFA Women's Champions League match with her new club if she has only been provisionally registered by the new association ("provisional registration" within the meaning of paragraph 8.2.6 of Annexe 3 and paragraph 3.5 of Annexe 3a to the FIFA regulations). This rule is justified by UEFA's need to protect the integrity of its competition: since a provisional registration may be withdrawn by the FIFA Players' Status Committee "if, during [a] one-year period, the former association presents valid reasons explaining why it did not respond to the ITC request" (see paragraph 8.2.6 of Annexe 3 and paragraph 3.5 of Annexe 3a to the FIFA regulations), it is very important for UEFA to avoid a situation in which a club wins one of its competitions with a player whose provisional registration is subsequently withdrawn by the FIFA Players' Status Committee.

This applies only to a provisional registration by the new association in accordance with paragraph 8.2.6 of Annexe 3 and paragraph 3.5 of Annexe 3a to the FIFA regulations, i.e. only in the event that the new association does not receive a response to the ITC request within seven days (paragraph 8.2.6 of Annexe 3) or 30 days (paragraph 3.5 of Annexe 3a) of the ITC request being made.

- d) However, a player can be registered for UEFA club competitions based on the provisional registration in accordance with paragraph 8.2.6 of Annexe 3 or paragraph 3.5 of Annexe 3a to the FIFA regulations if the association of the player's former club provides UEFA with written confirmation in English that both the association and the player's former club have no objection to the player's registration with the new club.

Furthermore, if the FIFA Players' Status Committee decides to authorise the new association to provisionally register the player with her new club (in accordance with paragraph 8.2.7 of Annexe 3 or paragraph 3.6 of Annexe 3a to the FIFA regulations), the player in question is considered eligible to participate in a UEFA club competition for her new club as soon as written confirmation of the decision has been transmitted by the new club to the UEFA administration.

Finally, for clarification, if a club includes a player on its list – by the set deadline – for whom an ITC has been requested but not yet issued, this player may not be replaced on the list in the event that the ITC is not subsequently issued by the former association.



#### 8. Registration periods

As an increasing number of women football players are becoming professionals, UEFA is observing a significant increase in the number of international transfers involving clubs participating in the UEFA Women's Champions League. All the rules governing these transfers can be found in the FIFA regulations and all international transfers are dealt with by FIFA. Article 40.02 of the Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League 2020/21 stipulates that these FIFA regulations have to be respected if a player is to be registered for the UEFA Women's Champions League. To make sure every club and national association is aware of these rules, they are explained below.

The rules in the FIFA regulations apply to the registration of male and female professional and amateur players. However, associations are allowed to fix registration periods for women's football that are different from those for men's football. Should any association want to do so, the following conditions must be met:

- a) The association concerned must notify FIFA of the specific registration periods for women's football in advance, prior to the start of the relevant season or of the first of the registration periods in question, and clearly mark them as the registration periods for women's football.
- b) The association must comply with Article 6.1 of the FIFA regulations, i.e. two annual registration periods for women's football must be fixed and female players may only be registered during these two periods. Associations may fix different registration periods for their men's and women's competitions.
- c) The registration periods fixed for women's football must also comply with the compulsory prerequisites under Article 6.2 of the FIFA regulations, i.e. the first registration period may not exceed twelve weeks and the second registration period may not exceed four weeks.

Furthermore, an association is allowed to fix different registration periods for amateur players, but only for competitions reserved exclusively for amateur players (see Article 6.4 of the FIFA regulations). Again, the association concerned must notify FIFA in advance of the specific registration periods for purely amateur competitions. However, when an amateur player is transferred from a club affiliated to one association to a club affiliated to another association (international transfer) and maintains the status of amateur player, the ITC for this player may only be requested during the relevant registration period of the new association as described below.

Consequently, when registering players for the UEFA Women's Champions League, bear in mind which registration periods apply.



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Should you have a league with **only amateur players**:

1. If registration periods for amateur female players have been announced to FIFA, these registration periods apply.
2. If registration periods for amateur female players have not been announced to FIFA, as a general rule the registration periods for women's professional football apply (if any, and if announced to FIFA in due time); otherwise, the registration periods for men's professional football apply.

Article 2.2 of the FIFA regulations stipulates that a professional player is a one who has a written contract with a club and is paid more for her footballing activity than the expenses she effectively incurs. Consequently, should you have a league comprising one or more clubs with **one or more professional players**, even if an amateur is transferred internationally into this league while keeping her amateur status:

1. If registration periods for women's professional football have been announced to FIFA, these registration periods apply.
2. If registration periods for women's professional football have not been announced to FIFA, the registration periods for men's professional football apply.

#### 9. Duty to notify the UEFA administration

During the course of the season, the national associations are required to notify UEFA **immediately** in writing of the departure (i.e. as a result of a transfer or loan) of any players from clubs taking part in the 2020/21 UEFA Women's Champions League. This notification must indicate the date of the transfer or loan and the club to which the player has been transferred or loaned. Any player who is transferred or loaned from a participating club must be removed from the player list, and a new player can only be added to the list at the next registration date.

Similarly, a player who has been removed from a player list because she has been loaned to another club can only be registered again on the player list at the next registration date, irrespective of the end date of the loan period.

UEFA must also be notified as soon as possible about any change of head coach or 1st assistant coach, including details of the new coach's coaching qualifications.

#### 10. Squad list updates

As in the past, clubs are able to modify their squad lists directly in the player registration system. Any player who is no longer registered with a club can be removed from the squad list by the club player registration manager. The player's departure date from the club must be entered.



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#### 11. List of suspended players

Before the start of the season, the UEFA administration will send each national association a list of players and coaches who have pending suspensions to be served during the 2020/21 season. This list should be consulted if players or coaches are transferred, and UEFA's disciplinary services will be happy to provide you with additional information on this matter if required. As a reminder, for all UEFA club competitions, only players who are duly registered with UEFA can serve pending UEFA suspensions.

#### 12. Contact information

For any questions regarding player eligibility or the player registration system in TIME, please contact the UEFA Football Operations Unit at: [players@uefa.ch](mailto:players@uefa.ch).

– Annex 1: Player registration deadlines for the 2020/21 UEFA Women's Champions League



## Enclosure 3 – Annex 1

### Player eligibility for the 2020/21 UEFA Women's Champions League

#### Player registration deadlines for the 2020/21 UEFA Women's Champions League

The association completes the player list **online** (see enclosure 6) and submits it to UEFA by the following deadlines. At 12:00 CET, on the working day after the submission deadline, a printout signed by the club and the association must be uploaded in TIME.

<b>Competition stage</b>	<b>Match dates</b>	<b>Deadline for player registration and submission of player list to UEFA</b>
Qualifying round	7–13 October 2020	1 October 2020 (24:00 CET)
Round of 32 onwards	From 11 November 2020	5 November 2020 (24:00 CET)