



No. 05/2022

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of
the president and the general secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference RIG/mpt	Date 3 February 2022
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Decision of the UEFA Executive Committee related to the amendments of the UEFA Return to Play Protocol

Dear Sir/Madam,

On 2 February 2022, the UEFA Executive Committee approved further amendments to the UEFA Return to Play Protocol (the Protocol), resulting in the publication of the sixth edition of this protocol.

The approved amendments to the Protocol, which were thoroughly discussed and evaluated in consultation with the UEFA Protocol Advisory Panel are limited to a very minimum and reflect the evolution of the epidemiological situation in Europe.

The newly approved Protocol is enclosed with this circular letter, with the main changes being as follows:

- It has been decided to introduce the principle of *"reciprocal testing"*. As some of the country's relevant authorities within the UEFA territory are requiring COVID-19 testing to enter the country, the visiting teams traveling to these match venues will be required to undergo specific COVID-19 related testing to be able to reach the match venue. Therefore, to ensure an equal treatment of teams playing against each other, whenever the whole visiting team delegation is required to perform a specific pre-departure and/or on-arrival test in order to enter the match venue country, the whole host team delegation will be subject to the same testing requirements as applicable to the visiting team delegation (see section 6.5.1 of the Protocol).
- Given the development of PCR-tests and, in particular, the reduced turnaround time for test results to be delivered, individuals of the relevant target groups as stipulated in the Protocol which are either not fully vaccinated and/or not recently recovered from COVID-19 will be solely subject to SARS-CoV-2 PCR test not earlier than MD-3. Teams must organise this test themselves with an accredited testing service provider. No laboratory-based SARS-CoV-2 antigen test will be accepted with regards to the entry of Zone 1.

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- Finally, due to the increased contagiousness of the different COVID-19 variants currently circulating, it was decided to only allow FFP-2 (or higher) quality masks to be used at all times for team delegations and all persons working in the stadium.

It is once again important to emphasise that the successful continuation of UEFA's competition is dependent on our members cooperation, compliance with, and implementation of the Protocol so that our club and national team competitions can be delivered safely and successfully.

Yours faithfully,

UEFA



Theodore Theodoridis
General Secretary

Enclosure

- UEFA Return to Play Protocol v6

cc (with enclosure)

- UEFA Executive Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- UEFA honorary members
- UEFA Club Competitions Committee
- UEFA National Team Competitions Committee
- UEFA Women's Football Committee
- FIFA, Zurich