



UEFA Return to Play Protocol v6

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1. Preamble

This protocol (hereinafter: the UEFA Protocol) sets out the framework of medical, sanitary and hygiene procedures together with the operational protocols that are to be applied when staging UEFA competition matches. The evolution of the COVID-19 situation is dynamic and unpredictable, both in terms of its epidemiology and the nature of the countermeasures imposed by national governments, and while it is impossible to establish a completely risk-free environment, the aim is to lower the risk as far as possible by applying current medical advice and best practices.

For the 2021/22 season, the UEFA Protocol has been adapted based on the experiences gathered during the last year of UEFA competition matches, and new principles have been developed taking into account the evolution of the medical situation including the emergence of virus variants, and the implementation of a vaccination programme across Europe.

The 2021/22 season changes to the UEFA Protocol have been elaborated with the support of Dr Zoran Bahtijarević (CRO) (UEFA Medical Committee third vice-chairman), Dr Mario Poljak (SVN), Dr Barbara Gärtner (GER) and Dr Michael Sjöo (SWE).

Minimising the risk to UEFA competitions from COVID-19 relies on thorough and robust preparations and on-site organisation, but also to a large extent on the cooperation, behaviour and understanding of the teams, their players, officials and technical staff, as well as the UEFA referees, the UEFA venue staff and all target groups involved in the matches. UEFA expects all parties to adhere to hygiene best practices both in the controlled match environments, as well as in their private day to day lives. It is therefore imperative that all precautions set out in this document, as well as the standard hygiene best practices, will be strictly adhered to by all members of these various groups. Non-respect of such social norms could have serious consequences for the staging of international matches.

Players and everyone else involved should remember that their actions not only guarantee a safe environment at UEFA Matches but also serve as a strong symbol for the millions of viewers around the world. Football stakeholders have a collective duty to show leadership and set an example in the rigorous application of these measures.

The UEFA Protocol expressly does not contain any matters related to the medical or operational requirements for a return to training by teams. It falls within the competence of domestic football bodies, national associations and leagues, in coordination with the relevant competent national/local authorities (the authorities), to determine the conditions that must be met to allow players and staff to return to their training grounds to prepare for upcoming matches.

Finally, it is established as an absolute and unalienable principle of this protocol that the staging of any UEFA Match must not have a detrimental impact on SARS-CoV-2 testing, treatment and prevention resources available to the general population of that association.

2. Objectives

The aim of this document is to set out a single medical and operational protocol applicable to competitive football and futsal matches of UEFA competitions, as well as centralised A-national team friendlies (UEFA Matches).

Changes to the overall situation and the regulatory conditions may require us to further revise and adapt this protocol. The UEFA Protocol is subject to legal provisions and other orders issued by the authorities in the various countries. We expect each association to inform us as soon as possible if any existing or new legislation is likely to have an impact on how this protocol is applied.

The UEFA Protocol sets out the procedures necessary for organising all UEFA Matches, focusing on matters such as the testing regime, team and official travel and hotel planning and the stadium operations. In this respect, the UEFA Protocol comprises a set of mandatory obligations for all teams taking part in UEFA matches. As some UEFA competitions have certain operational or organisational differences, this protocol may be complemented by specific operational provisions applicable to particular competitions.

3. Scope of application

The UEFA Protocol includes medical and operational obligations for all parties taking part in and/or organising UEFA Matches. These obligations must be applied by match organisers (who are also responsible for ensuring that the stadium operator applies them) when preparing venues, subject to any additional measures imposed by the authorities from country to country. With the exception of matches for which UEFA is the designated event organiser, the responsibility for implementing the requirements and guidelines set out in this Protocol lies with the match organiser.

The UEFA Protocol applies to the UEFA Matches set out under Objectives until further notice, in conjunction with the applicable relevant competent national/local authority legislation and requirements.

The UEFA administration is entrusted with the operational management of the Protocol and is, therefore, entitled to take decisions and adopt detailed operational provisions and guidelines for the implementation of the Protocol in particular in view of the different competitions to be organised as well as to amend it accordingly in view of the COVID-19 development and the constantly changing national conditions.

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

The annexes form an integral part of this Protocol.

4. Roles and responsibilities

To ensure that the UEFA Protocol is properly implemented, all medical requirements are fulfilled and that the operational principles of the protocol are appropriately reviewed, each team taking part in a UEFA Match must take the following measures:

- Each team must appoint a **Medical Liaison Officer (MLO)** who is responsible for ensuring that all the medical testing requirements in this protocol are fulfilled. The MLO must be someone with appropriate medical competence, preferably the team doctor (but not necessarily the case). The MLO must travel with the team.
- Each team must appoint a **Protocol Compliance Officer (PCO)** who is responsible for ensuring the travel, accommodation and general hygiene and physical distancing measures are respected at all times. The PCO must ensure contracts with hotels and airline companies include best practice guidelines and that the measures of the UEFA Protocol are strictly implemented. The PCO must travel with the team and must be tested as part of the team delegation.
- Each host team (or the match organiser if a UEFA Match is played in a neutral stadium or country) must appoint an English-speaking **Hygiene Officer (HO)** with detailed functional knowledge of the stadium and its operations, whose sole responsibility is to review the operational principles of the UEFA Protocol with the authorities, to then ensure that all the principles and appropriate hygiene measures set out here are correctly implemented at the venue. The HO must have a good understanding of the local epidemiological situation and local measures in place. The HO is further responsible for implementing a protocol for entry to the stadium and its controlled area that ensures that everyone entering the stadium has fulfilled the necessary entry requirements. The HO must work closely with and report to the UEFA Match Delegate during the delegate's time on-site. The HO must be one of the operational staff accredited to access Zone 1 (see section 14.4).
- The **UEFA Match Delegate (UMD)** is, amongst other tasks, responsible overall for checking that the UEFA Protocol and hygiene measures are implemented at the venue, and must review all entry procedures, the zoning concept and access protection at the stadium including the team and officials Zone 1 entry controls. The UMD reports to UEFA on any failure to implement the protocol, as well as on any breaches of the operational measures, to ensure the optimum protection of all stakeholders at the venue. The UMD will be tested as part of the UEFA testing programme.
- The **UEFA Protocol Advisory Panel (UPAP)** advises UEFA on any medical questions related to SARS-CoV-2 testing. The UPAP may at the request of the teams provide consultation or advice to a team MLO and/or team doctor on questions related to test results, as well as on additional alternative testing practices for players previously affected by the virus and/or vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2, however this is only advisory in nature and any decisions can only be taken by the authorities. The UPAP is composed of virologists, laboratory experts and medical doctors, all experienced in the management of COVID-19.
- The **UEFA Protocol Monitoring Officer (UPMO)**, when appointed, is responsible for assisting and supporting the UMD in observing the application of the UEFA Protocol and complementing the reporting of the UMD on any shortcomings in this implementation.

UEFA PROTOCOL: MEDICAL PRINCIPLES

5. Physical distancing and hygiene principles

In general, vaccination against SARS-CoV-2, physical distancing and strict use of face masks are considered the most effective way to minimise the risk of transmitting the disease together with hygiene best practices such as regular handwashing. At all matches, a **1.5m** physical distance must be respected at all times in working indoor areas, and in no case less than the guidance recommended by the local government. In addition, strict distancing measures must be applied between the teams and officials both indoors and outdoors as well as all other groups of persons involved at the stadium.

6. UEFA Testing Programme

In order to increase security and confidence for everyone involved in a UEFA Match, especially where physical distancing or other infection preventative measures may not be possible in all circumstances, a specific programme has been put in place to be followed by all those concerned.

6.1. Identified target groups

The following identified target groups will be subject to the UEFA testing programme:

Group 1:

- **Teams:** All players potentially participating in a UEFA Match together with the technical and operational staff such as coaches, assistants, physios, doctors, main contacts, press officers and match managers.

Group 2:

- **Referees:** The referee, assistant referees and fourth official as well as VAR and Assistant VAR when appointed
- **UEFA match officers (when appointed):** UMD, Referee Observer, Security Officer, Doping Control Officer, Venue Director and Media Officer
- **UEFA venue team members (when appointed):** Venue Operations and Broadcast Manager, Venue Media Manager and Venue Services and Sponsorship Manager

Group 3:

- **Local support:** relevant local liaison and support staff (e.g. referee liaison officer, delegate liaison, doping control chaperones, team liaison officers etc)
- **Pitchside medical team:** Pitchside emergency doctor and stretcher teams (4-8 stretcher bearers).
- **Broadcast staff:** Host broadcast (HB) staff operating in Zone 1 on MD-1 and MD
- **Supplier staff:** UEFA partners and suppliers operating in Zone 1 or with close contact to tested members of Group 1 or 2 (e.g. VAR Operators)
- **Security/stewards:** any security or steward personnel needing to operate in Zone 1

6.2. Category of individuals

The testing programme differentiates between two categories:

Category A:

Individuals of the target groups that are fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2 and/or have recovered from COVID-19 and are in possession of an official vaccination and/or recovery certificate issued by the relevant competent authorities (e.g. Digital COVID-19 certificate).

Category B:

Individuals of the target groups that are either not, or not fully, vaccinated, and not recently recovered from COVID-19.

[NB: For the purposes of the single match testing requirements defined under section 6.5. of this Protocol only, and without prejudice to the responsibility of the team to make the necessary verifications ahead of travelling to any other country as outlined below, an individual is to be viewed as fully vaccinated/recently recovered from COVID-19 if they are considered as such by the competent national authority of the country where the individual was vaccinated/or has recovered from COVID-19, and/or the country of the individuals' residence.]

6.3. Accredited testing service provider

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

6.4. Pre-competition screening

To reduce the risk of positive tests immediately before competition matches, all members of Group 1 and Group 2 who are not subject to a domestic testing regime are strongly encouraged to undergo at least one round of pre-screening testing between MD-14 and MD-10 prior to their first match in the relevant competition. In such cases, testing must be organised and paid by each team with an accredited testing service provider.

6.5. Single match testing requirements

6.5.1. 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 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.

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.

In case all members of the visiting team delegation are required by the relevant authorities at the match venue to undergo a specific test for the purpose of entering into the country (whether this test must be done pre-departure and/or on arrival), then the whole home team delegation must undergo an equivalent test within the same deadline. If the authorities allow for different types of testing (e.g. PCR Test or Laboratory-based SARS-CoV-2 antigen test (Antigen Test) within a specific deadline, each team is free to choose independently which test type they prefer to undergo, as long as they comply with the specified deadlines by the relevant authorities.

The fulfilment of this reciprocal test must be confirmed in writing by the home team doctor and home team main contact at the latest at the Matchday Organisational Meeting by means of the Team Testing Declaration Form (see Annex B).

6.5.2. Group 2 and Group 3:

All individuals in these Groups are subject to testing before each UEFA match.

Individuals falling under **Category B** must undergo a PCR Test not earlier than MD-3. 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. Tournament testing requirements

For any matches played in a tournament format (e.g. WEURO Final Tournament) the testing programme for Groups 1, 2 and 3 will be communicated to the relevant parties in due course.

6.7. Zone 1 venue entrance requirements

In order to be granted access to Zone 1 of the relevant UEFA match venue, members of Group 1, 2 and 3 must present on arrival at the stadium 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.

6.8. Previous confirmed cases

It is currently recognised that those who have recovered from COVID-19 may still be at risk of delivering positive SARS-CoV-2 test results, despite having no contagion risk nor virus symptoms. The majority of the UEFA National Associations' countries recognise persons who have recovered from COVID-19, allowing those individuals to enter the country without further entry requirements. However, for countries where previously infected persons are not exempted from existing entry requirements, participants from Group 1 or Group 2 who have verified confirmation that they have now recovered from the virus are invited to submit documentation of this to the UPAP, including the date of diagnosis of the virus, complete relevant medical history and any other medical documents in this context e.g. SARS-CoV-2 PCR test or any other laboratory tests. This must be provided at least one week before the individual's next planned match. This information will then be reviewed by the UPAP which may provide recommendations for the affected person to be exempted from further SARS-CoV-2 testing or for other possible steps to be taken, e.g. alternative testing methods.

In order to submit a request for a UPAP recommendation, teams are required to contact covid19testing@uefa.ch with a completed Illness Record Form (see Annex A) to receive further instructions on the information to be provided for the relevant case. Unless all relevant necessary documentation is submitted, the UPAP will not be able to provide a recommendation.

Any such UPAP recommendations are strictly advisory, and it is the responsibility of the team to liaise with the authorities to obtain a final decision on the recommendation provided by the UPAP to the team (potentially both in the team's home country and in the country of the match venue).

7. Contact tracing programme & best practices

In order to minimise the impact of a positive test from a player or member of staff, every team must implement a rigorous contact tracing programme for the members of its testing pool. This programme must keep careful note of interactions between persons in the group such as when seated on planes/buses, mealtimes, keeping track of training interactions, any medical care interactions and social exchanges.

In order to be able to demonstrate a low risk of potential transmission, some examples of best practice behaviours that can be implemented include:

- During travel
 - o Maintaining physical distancing on all bus and plane trips (one person per two seats)
 - o Using two team buses instead of one
 - o Keeping set seats on all bus trips
 - o Taking photos of seating plans on buses/planes to detail interactions
 - o Wearing FFP-2 (or higher) quality face masks during all travel
- During hotel stays, team meetings etc
 - o Maintaining physical distancing at any indoor gatherings of the team
 - o All team members wearing FFP-2 (or higher) quality face masks at any indoor gatherings except meals
 - o Keeping track of seating plans and interactions at team meetings and meals
- During training sessions

-
- Keeping track of training groups
 - Using tracking data or training session filming to keep track of training session contacts

Team PCOs must oversee the contact tracing programmes and oversee team arrangements to maximise physical distancing and behaviour best practice measures.

In case of a positive case, the definition of close contact will be determined by the authority. Nonetheless as guidance only, the World Health Organization (WHO) has published guidelines on what it considers as close contact for the purpose of contact tracing:

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/contact-tracing-in-the-context-of-covid-19>

8. Pre-Competition Medical Examinations (PCME)

For players who have had a confirmed COVID-19 previous infection, or who have had suspicious symptoms or contacts, additional medical examination must be completed, depending on the type and the severity of each player's symptoms. These medical examinations are in addition to the standard PCME's.

Teams will need to confirm via the player's list that all above-mentioned medical examinations have been carried out.

9. Development of symptoms onsite

Anyone involved in a match who develops any symptoms indicative of a potential COVID-19 infection must immediately isolate themselves at their hotel and must contact the authorities for guidance.

A full list of potential indicator symptoms can be found here:

https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus#tab=tab_3

UEFA PROTOCOL: OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES

10. International travel procedures

10.1. Team players, technical and operational staff

It is strongly recommended to travel to UEFA matches on charter flights. UEFA reserves the right to make it a compulsory condition for certain competitions. In those cases, the charter flight must be exclusively used by members of the team delegation fulfilling the requirements set out in section 6.7 above. Any other accompanying persons such as travelling broadcasters or media, families, guests and/or sponsors are strictly to be excluded from such charter flight.

In all other cases, commercial flights may be used with additional precautions.

The following are requirements for teams when travelling:

1. Use of FFP-2 (or higher) quality face masks in all public areas during travel as well as on the planes and team buses and whenever contact with other people is possible
2. Physical distancing at all times, including within the team delegation
3. Regular use of hand sanitiser
4. For charter flights, teams must request that the plane is fully disinfected before the flight.

Teams should liaise with the airport authorities at both departure and arrival airports to determine whether special arrangements can be made to minimise contact with the general public, such as the use of a VIP customs and transfer service. Teams must also be prepared to comply with any SARS-CoV-2 testing at the airport that is required by the authorities.

The host team/host association must make every effort to facilitate the arrival and transfer of the visiting team. This should include direct collection in a private bus at the aircraft, private passage through customs and direct passage, avoiding public spaces where possible, to their bus. This arrangement must be discussed between the host team and the travelling team. When possible, the return flight should take place immediately after the match.

For matches played in a tournament format, once teams have arrived on-site before their first match in the competition, they must remain on-site, i.e. in agreed tournament facilities, until after their respective last match in the competition. Teams are not permitted to leave the tournament venue for other training camps outside of the relevant tournament facilities, take part in other matches or for any other reason.

10.2. Team official delegation

All members of the team delegation including operational staff and team executives that will have access to Zone 1 must fulfil the conditions set out in section 6.7 above, in order to ensure all members of the wider team delegation can safely travel with the players and technical staff. The official delegation must keep in mind that they may have contact with members of the team sporting delegation if they enter Zone 1 or travel with the team, and therefore must follow the best practice behaviour recommendations, especially at the stadium. It is recommended that the team's PCO establishes measures during all travel to keep a separation between the team sporting delegation (players and coaching, technical and medical staff) and all other members of the team delegation (operational staff and team executives).

10.3. Referees, Match Officers and venue staff

The referees, UEFA match officers and venue staff must take maximum care to maintain strict physical distancing at all times while travelling. They must wear an FFP-2 (or higher) quality face mask (for mouth and nose) throughout their journey and use hand sanitiser regularly.

11. Local travel procedures

11.1. Team players, technical and operational staff

It is recommended to use two team buses for all trips instead of one. Team buses must be thoroughly disinfected shortly before collecting the team. It is also recommended that the team bus driver(s) be tested for COVID-19 before driving the team. If the visiting team is not using its own team bus and usual driver then they must include these considerations when booking with a local bus provider.

The bus driver should nonetheless be equipped with an appropriate FFP-2 (or higher) quality face mask and remain at least 1.5m from the team members at all times e.g. middle door to be used by all players and staff to enter/leave the bus. The use of plexiglass to isolate the bus driver may be used as an alternative.

Team buses must be exclusively used by the team tested delegation only. Team delegation members may not travel in vehicles with any other accompanying persons, such as broadcasters or media, families, VIPs, guests and/or sponsors.

These requirements are equally applicable to the travel of teams using other local transportation methods, e.g. train.

11.2. Referees, Match Officers and venue staff

- **Referee team:** The host national association is always responsible for providing transport for the match officials and referee observer.
 - The vehicle used for transporting the referees must be thoroughly disinfected before use by the referee team, and if the RLO is not the driver for the referee team, then before driving the team the driver must have a negative PCR Test or Antigen Test if they are not fully vaccinated. The referee driver must also wear an appropriate FFP-2 (or higher) quality face mask at all times when in the referee transport vehicle, or when in the presence of the referees.
- **UMD:** The host team is required to provide private transfer for the UMD from their arrival in the host city to their departure so that they can avoid the need to use public transport/taxis. The same requirements as mentioned above for the referee driver apply also to the driver for the UMD.
- **Venue team and venue staff:** Venue teams will need to make their own transport arrangements once onsite (e.g. taxis etc). They are therefore required to wear masks at all times while travelling locally and must use hand sanitiser regularly.

12. Hotels

All team members should if possible be allocated individual bedrooms.

When a team is staying in a hotel, ideally an exclusive hotel or alternatively an exclusive floor or wing of a hotel, should be reserved for their sole use. If this is not possible, the team must make arrangements to prevent any close contact between the team and other guests or staff. This should include

- Private dining area
- Private access routes

The PCO should conclude a written agreement with the hotel that includes all the necessary hygiene measures, such as:

- Wearing of masks/ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) by hotel staff
- Maximising physical distancing by staff
- Cleaning regime of rooms and public spaces (elevators etc)
- Meal arrangements
- Their policy regarding staff who have symptoms of infection

(Nb – for some UEFA organised events the hotel contracts with the minimum hygiene measures will be concluded by UEFA in advance on behalf of the teams, but the team PCO may still discuss any additional requested measures directly with the hotel).

The team's PCO must always check that all the agreed hygiene measures have actually been taken by the hotel.

During the teams stay, there should be special/thorough disinfection and cleaning of the rooms and spaces used by the team immediately before the team checks in.

The teams themselves are solely responsible for handling team equipment and attire.

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. No clean-up is to take place until the players have left the dining areas so that the smallest number of hotel staff is present in the dining room during meals.

Team members (both players and technical staff) must not leave the hotel unless it is under previously agreed and organised conditions and does not involve coming into contact with anyone outside of their group. For longer stays, team excursions may be organised, but these must be strictly controlled to ensure physical distancing is respected throughout the excursion and/or that appropriate PPE is used by all members of the team delegation if physical distancing is not possible. The team PCO is responsible for ensuring that the standard hygiene measures are adhered to during any team excursion.

For longer stays, visiting teams will also need to make appropriate laundry arrangements with their hotel, ensuring in particular that washed clothing and equipment (bibs etc) are only handled by members of the team delegation and not by hotel staff.

13. Admission of Spectators

Spectators are allowed to attend UEFA Matches in countries where this is permitted by the authorities, who also determine the maximum attendance limit. Spectators can be only allowed to attend UEFA matches if the match organiser complies with the following:

- National and/or local legislation;
- In case the attendance limit includes match participants and working staff as well as spectators, priority must be given to teams, officials and working staff;
- A minimum 2m must be maintained between general public spectator seating and any seating reserved in the tribune for team delegations (to ensure the presence of spectators poses no health risks to the teams);
- A health and hygiene plan for spectators agreed with the authorities, which may include:
 - General conditions of entry such as vaccination or test requirements;
 - Any required use of masks by spectators;
 - Any distancing that must be applied between individual seats or groups of seats;
 - Plans and requirements for queuing management, directional signage and instructions, and sanitisation stations.

14. Stadium Operations

14.1. Hygiene measures at the stadium

14.1.1. Stadium working staff capacity and stadium entry

Everyone entering the stadium must comply with any entry requirements set out by the authorities.

The staffing level must be adapted to stadium layout and competition needs and must also comply with any restrictions or limits applied to the event by the authorities.

14.1.2. Face masks and hand sanitiser

Face masks of FFP-2 quality (or higher), covering the mouth and nose, must be worn at all times by everyone operating in the stadium. Failure to comply with wearing masks, or failure to use the proper quality of masks, will be reported to the UMD and the venue HO, and may lead to ejection from the stadium.

Everyone working onsite is required to be equipped with their own face masks. Nonetheless for all matches host teams are required to have an additional supply of FFP-2 quality (or higher) face masks which can be provided to other stakeholders at cost price in case they are not equipped with sufficient masks.

The requirement to wear a mask extends to the whole team delegation, including official delegations of team executives, at all times. Exceptionally, during the match itself, the use of masks is a strong recommendation for all substitutes and team staff sitting on the substitutes bench, unless a 1m physical distancing is applied between each seat. In order to fulfil his coaching obligation and allow communication with the players, the head coach is free from any obligation to wear a mask during the match.

The obligation to wear a mask at all times includes, but is not limited to, the following target groups: UMD, UEFA venue staff, all members of Group 3 of the testing groups, stadium operational staff, stadium stewards, groundstaff, catering and cleaning staff, broadcast staff, media (except commentators during the match and presenters presenting to camera), photographers, signage and LED teams and independent medical staff (pitchside emergency teams, stadium medics).

Face masks worn in Zones 1 and 2 must be free of manufacturer or sponsor branding. Masks worn by players and team staff may include one team logo of a maximum 20cm² in size.

Hand sanitiser must be provided at all access points to the stadium, and at the entry points to each of the stadium zones described in section 14.2 below. Hand sanitiser must be used frequently, and in particular must be used by everyone entering the stadium or when changing stadium zones.

14.1.3. Stadium hygiene procedures

In general, all areas of the stadium that are in use for the match must be cleaned prior to use. These areas include broadcast and media working areas, stadium seating, offices, meeting rooms and sanitary facilities.

14.2. Stadium zoning

14.2.1. Stadium zones

A zoning system will be implemented for some areas of the stadium to limit interactions or contact with the teams and/or with working staff.

Zone 1 – ‘team zone’

Zone 2 – ‘pitch surroundings’

Zone 3 – ‘broadcast and media areas’

Zone 4 – ‘tribunes, stadium interiors and stadium exterior controlled zone’

Zone 1 – The ‘team zone’ includes the dressing room areas (team and referee dressing rooms, doping control station, medical room, delegate’s office, tunnel), the player benches, technical seats and any additional seats in the stands used to extend the benches or technical seats or that are made available to the teams according to the relevant competition regulations, the pitch and pitch surrounds up to the pitch perimeter advertising boards (or a distance of 4m from the pitch markings where no pitch perimeter advertising boards are installed – in this case floor markings should be installed in key areas around the pitch to indicate the extent of Zone 1), and the warm-up areas including a distance of 1.5m around the warm-up areas. For matches where pitchside presentation positions will be used, then on the main touchline on the side of the benches during MD-1 training and on MD pre-match (including during the warm-up) and post-match, Zone 1 is reduced (and Zone 2 extended) to a distance of 1.5m from the edge of the pitch and 1.5m to the outside of the two technical areas (still nonetheless including any team pitchside technical seats). From the moment the players exit the tunnel for the pre-match line-up until the final whistle, the Zone 1 limits are extended to incorporate the area from the technical area to the goal line and to a distance of 4m from the main touchline or 1.5m more than the warm-up areas, whichever is further from the pitch, as well 1.5m from any team pitchside technical seats.

Zone 1 is for the groups required exclusively for match operations (players, substitutes, coaching, technical and medical staff, referees, UEFA match delegate, match officers and venue teams, doping control officers and chaperones, pitch medics, security, hygiene staff) but also people fulfilling the minimum delivery obligations, such as limited HB staff,

technical suppliers, VAR, signage, etc. Only those who comply with the requirements set out in section 6.7 will be allowed to enter Zone 1.

If there is any area of the tribunes where general public seating areas are immediately adjacent to any team delegation seating in the stands, a 2m buffer must be maintained between this team delegation seating and any public/spectator seating.

Zone 2 – The ‘pitch surroundings’ means the area between the pitch perimeter advertising boards and the tribunes. Along the side of the benches this zone extends from 4m from the pitch (or 1.5m from the outer limit of the warm-up areas and 1.5m from any team pitchside technical seats whichever is further), except during the specific times mentioned under Zone 1 above, where the Zone 1 and Zone 2 limits are temporarily adapted.

Zone 2 is for manned camera positions, HB staff (e.g. pitch reporters), photographers, ball children, groundskeepers, LED operators, pitchside stadium stewards and security personnel etc.

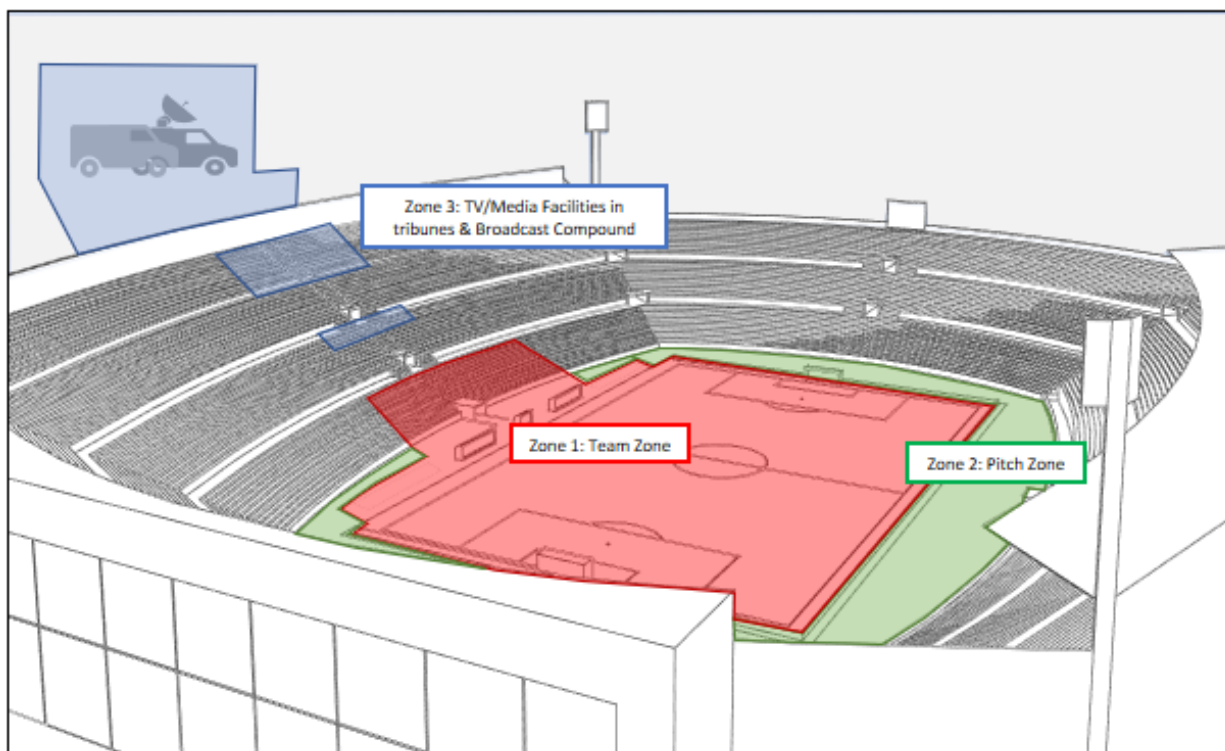
Zone 3 – The ‘broadcast and media areas’ means the areas in the stadium tribunes used by broadcast personnel and media representatives. This zone includes the commentary positions and media tribune, media and photographer working areas as well as any camera positions in the stadium tribunes. It also includes the broadcast compound even if outside the stadium boundary.

If any Zone 3 broadcast/media operations working positions are located in the tribunes for COVID-19 protocol reasons, an appropriate distance must be maintained between spectator areas and these working positions in order to allow the broadcast/media operations to take place safely and without unnecessary disturbance.

Zone 4 – The ‘tribunes’ are the seating areas of the stadium (excluding any broadcast and media areas or areas used by the teams). This therefore includes the usual seating areas of all categories. The ‘stadium interiors’ include all indoor areas at the stadium not included in Zones 1 and 2. This therefore includes any team offices and working rooms and stadium offices, stadium concourses as well as indoor hospitality areas. The ‘stadium exterior’ extends from the outer limits of the stadium building to the outer boundary of the private stadium environs (wall, fence, turnstiles, gate etc.)

The match organiser is responsible for overseeing the access of people to each zone according to the implemented accreditation system. The venue HO must take a decision in case of doubt and report any violation of the zoning system to the UMD.

Queuing or other specific gatherings that can be expected in all zones of the stadium (e.g. arrival of media or post-match media activities) must also be identified and mitigation measures taken such as barriers, signage and additional access points.



14.2.2. Stadium zoning timings

MD-1 and MD are divided into three different time frames for dynamic planning of staff requirements:

- T1:** Morning until disinfection of Zone 1 starts (normally shortly before arrival of the kit vans which must be announced in advance on the TIME platform)
- T2:** From the end of T1 until players and match officials have left the stadium
- T3:** After all players and match officials have left the stadium

14.2.3. Zoning access and movement on MD-1

If either team or the referees are training at the stadium then the following applies:

During T1: access to Zones 1, 2 & 3 may be limited according to the accreditation concept, transit through Zone 1 must be controlled and limited to only those people with a specific working need.

During T2: In principle, no one may enter Zone 1 except the team delegations, match officers, match officials and venue staff, operators of approved camera positions and technicians, and broadcast staff to conduct interviews. Access to Zone 2 and 3 also limited to those only with a specific working need.

During T3: access to Zones 1-3 is in principle not restricted.

If there is no training at the stadium at all on MD-1:

At all times, transit through Zone 1 must be controlled and limited to only those people with a specific need.

14.2.4. Zoning access and movement on MD

During T1: access to Zones 1, 2 & 3 may be limited according to the accreditation concept, transit through Zone 1 must be controlled and limited to only those people with a specific need.

During T2: In principle, no one may enter Zone 1 except the team delegations, match officers, match officials and venue staff, operators of approved camera positions and technicians and broadcast staff to conduct interviews. Specific exceptions may be made for access to the pitch for ground staff for pitch maintenance when players and officials have all left the pitch, and for persons participating to any UEFA-approved pre-match ceremony activities. Access to Zone 2 and 3 also limited to those only with a specific working need.

During T3: access to Zones 1-3 is in principle not restricted.

14.3. Stadium access and accreditation management

The host team is always responsible for accreditation devices allowing access to the stadium. For centralised matches, a UEFA accreditation system will be implemented, but will only be used as a zoning system to allow entry to the different zones of the stadium. The UEFA accreditation system will be used to control numbers entering the specific zones and so the number of accreditation devices issued giving access to each zone will be controlled. Unless expressly specified for certain UEFA events (e.g. club finals, final tournaments etc), the UEFA accreditation will not be used as a stadium access device, so will not give the bearer access to the stadium on its own.

For all non-centralised matches, in addition to the stadium access accreditation, the match organiser must also implement a zoning system and a corresponding accreditation system that matches the zoning concept described above.

14.3.1. Accreditation system application

The accreditation system must allow stewards to clearly identify who is authorised to be in which zone at what time.

The stadium safety and security officers, stewards and private security must be clearly briefed about both the stadium zoning system and the various times, as well as the importance of its application. Any stadium entry requirements imposed by the authorities must be strictly applied by the match organiser. All staff working in the stadium must be asked to respect the system and to cooperate fully with stewards.

To highlight the sensitivity of Zone 1, it is recommended to implement a very clear visual floor-level demarcation at all potential points of access to Zone 1 to indicate the start of Zone 1 at each point.

14.3.2. Management of stadium entry and accreditation collection points

Any areas where queuing may be required must be arranged and managed in such a way as to maintain physical distancing. Signage, floor markings and fences/airport barriers should be used wherever necessary to facilitate organisation and to inform people of the requirements.

14.4. Team personnel and numbers at the stadium

Team allocations for Zone 1 will be determined according to the competition needs and permitted squad sizes, and within a competition may be adapted on a round-by-round basis. The team must include in this allocation everyone from the team who will need access to Zone 1, which means players, coaching, technical and medical staff, logistics support (kit manager and security) as well as key operational staff (team main contact / match manager, press officers etc). Zone 1 accreditations will only be issued if the individuals comply with the requirements set out in section 6.7.

In addition, the match organiser will receive five Zone 1 accreditation passes for operational staff. These may only be used by working staff not linked to the playing/coaching delegation who may need to access Zone 1 for operational reasons. These must include the HO, Match Manager (if relevant), any stadium facilities staff needed for emergency maintenance and security staff or stewards who need to access Zone 1. If these persons are not falling under Category A (see section 6.2), the match organiser is responsible for ensuring the other persons using these accreditations are tested on MD-3 ahead of each match.

Members of the team delegation outside of the sporting delegation, such as operational staff and club executives (president, CEO etc) that will have a Zone 1 access or who interact with the sporting group must maintain appropriate hygiene measures, such as use of masks in indoor areas of the stadium (working areas, hospitality rooms etc), as well as in outdoor areas and in the tribune seating when no physical distancing is in place. The team's PCO must oversee the measures taken to ensure these persons maintain such hygiene and sanitary measures, and that they maintain separation and distancing from other persons whenever possible.

14.5. Team arrival/departure procedures at the stadium

14.5.1. Arrival

The arrival of each team and the match officials should be staggered to avoid mixing and crowding in the corridors unless the stadium infrastructure and team routes allow simultaneous arrival in different locations. During team arrivals, the presence of any staff along the route should be kept to a minimum and with stewards in place to temporarily stop any other transit. Any stewards must maintain a minimum 1.5m distance from the team. Teams may go straight to the dressing room, and may perform a pitch inspection as usual, but must avoid congregating in indoor areas or passing through the tunnel at the same time as their opponent.

14.5.2. Departure

Teams should leave the dressing rooms as soon as possible after the match and the completion of any media obligations.

14.6. Stadium facilities

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.

In addition:

- Any saunas, pools or jacuzzies must be closed or drained
- Individual ice baths may be used and provided that the typical contact points around the bath edges are wiped down with disinfectant after each person's use. It is recommended to change the water regularly, if possible after each person's use.
- Any fitness equipment must be disinfected before and after use and must be located either within an area of the dressing room completely separated from the changing area, or in a different room
- Any physio equipment and massage beds must be disinfected before and after each individual use and must be located either within an area of the dressing room completely separated from the changing area, or in a different room

The same principles apply also to the referee dressing room, and if space is limited then additional rooms or alternative solutions must be found for the referee team.

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, between the team training sessions on MD-1 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.

Dressing room catering

Teams must agree on the supply of food and drinks to the dressing rooms between themselves and are responsible for ensuring that any food and drink deliveries adhere to all hygiene requirements and minimise any risk of contamination.

The host is responsible in the same way for any food and beverages they provided to referees and match officers.

For drinks, personal disposable bottles must be used exclusively. They must be collected and disposed of appropriately.

14.6.2. Team benches, technical seats and additional seats

All seats on the team benches and technical seats may be used in full. Additional seats in the tribune may nonetheless still need to be identified and used if the substitute bench does not include sufficient seats.

Additional seats for team delegation members may be required in the tribunes, in accordance with the relevant competition regulations and as a minimum the match organiser must reserve sufficient seating in the tribune to accommodate any members of the permitted sporting delegation that are not included on the match sheet. Any further additional seating requested by teams for their operational staff is to be agreed between the teams.

For all such seating reserved in the tribunes for team delegations no physical distancing is necessary unless required by the authorities, however a 2m buffer must be maintained between this team delegation seating and any public/spectator seating.

14.6.3. UEFA match officials and match officers seating

Seating for UEFA match officials and match officers must be provided as determined by the relevant competition regulations and manuals. Where seating for match officers and officials is located in VIP tribune sectors without physical distancing between seats, the UEFA officials must maintain a strict use of masks, even in their stadium seats. Furthermore, they must maintain strict distancing practices towards other spectators in all indoor areas, as well as towards members of the team delegations when in Zone 1.

14.6.4. Player warm-up areas

Players of each team should warm up in separate zones, so a separate warm-up area should be identified in each half of the pitch area. If this is not possible due to space limitations, the standard warm-up area must be used, but players of opposing teams must remain as apart from each other as possible during warm-ups.

14.6.5. Doping control

Two separate waiting rooms will be required for players to ensure that physical distancing can be maintained. An additional Doping Control Chaperone (DCC) will be required to supervise the second waiting room. The chairs in the waiting room must be positioned 1.5m from each other. To ensure proper distancing in the toilet area, teams are required to install one mirror opposite the toilet. This allows the Doping Control Officer to observe the passing of the sample at a safe distance.

14.6.6. Media and broadcast areas

All media facilities accessed by teams (press conference podiums, flash positions etc) must be disinfected on both MD-1 and matchday before the arrival of the teams.

15. Match operations

15.1. Zone 1 tour and matchday organisational meeting (MDOM)

The normal matchday morning pitch inspection is to be replaced by a Zone 1 tour that must be attended by the UMD, main contacts / match managers of both teams, the HO and the stadium manager. The tour must review all the relevant access routes, pitchside seating (benches, technical seats and additional tribune seating), pitchside camera positions etc.

The MDOM will be held immediately after this tour attended by the same group, with all other mandatory participants joining remotely by video conference, which must be organised by the host team.

This tour can also be held on MD-1 evening if all participants agree. The MDOM would then be held on MD morning with everyone attending by video conference organised by the host team.

15.2. Official reception

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.

15.3. Ball children

The home team decides the ball recovery and replacement system to be used for their home matches. If ball children are deployed, 6 to 8 ball children may be deployed around the pitch (additional children may be deployed for pitches surrounded by an athletics track or with a significant distance to the tribunes). Ball children must in principle be positioned in Zone 2 around the pitch behind the pitch perimeter advertising boards.

In addition, 4 to 6 ball children (or groundskeepers) may be positioned in the tribunes (Zone 3), as dictated by the configuration of the stadium.

Ball children must:

- Wear masks (FFP-2 quality or higher)
- Keep the ball on the ground at their feet until needed
- Disinfect their hands before and after warm-up and before and after each half
- Maintain at least a 1.5m distance from the players at all times

When ball children are deployed, it is recommended that whenever possible they are vaccinated. Additionally, the HO must find out whether parental consent is required for ball children assignments, and parents must also be informed of the entrance checks applicable to the ball children.

15.4. Pitch-side medical team

The pitch-side medical team must use PPE as prescribed by the authorities and follow the local health regulations for any on pitch lifesaving procedures such as cardiac arrest or spinal trauma.

15.5. Pitch maintenance

In general, pitch maintenance will only be performed by the groundskeepers at times when the teams are not present on the pitch. Groundskeepers must however always be permitted to enter Zone 1 when the teams are on the field of play during the match in case of specific match urgency (e.g. change a goal structure, replace a net, clean or repair the pitch etc). Physical distancing must be maintained between groundskeepers and teams during any such urgent activities.

15.6. Pre-match warm-ups

The time spent in the dressing room should be kept to a minimum. Players may therefore access the pitch to start their pre-match warm-ups earlier than the normal allocated time. Exact timings must be agreed at the latest at the MDOM in order to avoid any overlap with other activities such as pitch maintenance.

15.7. Opening/line-up ceremony

The holding area for the teams inside the tunnel must be arranged to ensure at least a 1.5m distance between each team. If the distance cannot be ensured in a central holding area, then the teams must leave their respective dressing rooms one team at a time. From the holding area, teams may exit to the pitch together if the tunnel allows both teams to walk through

maintaining the aforementioned distancing from each other. If this is not the case, then teams will exit to the pitch one team at a time.

For the line-up ceremony, each team should position themselves with at least a 1m distance to the referee team. Individual distancing between players of the same team, as well as within the referee team, is not required. Team photos may take place after the line-up ceremony at the discretion of each team.

Opening ceremony activities (e.g. pitch and/or centre circle banners) may take place provided there is a clear entry and exit route for the ceremony items / personnel that avoids any crossing or close contacts with the players or using the players tunnel(s). Due to the close proximity of these specific activities, player and referee escorts may not accompany the players/referees for the walk-out and/or pre-match ceremony. Handshakes between teams, or between teams and the referee teams will not take place.

The coin toss will still take place after the line-up ceremony with the two captains and the referee only, while still maintaining at least 1m distance.

Pennants may be exchanged as agreed between the two teams.

At half-time and before the second half the teams should again avoid congregating in the tunnel and must instead exit directly to the pitch according to the timings indicated in the match countdown.

15.8. Players and staff on the bench

Players and staff on the substitutes bench and technical seats are strongly recommended to wear masks during the match, however any team doctor or medical staff going to treat a player must first put on a mask.

Individual labelled drinks bottles must be organised by each team for each person on the bench, as well as for each player on the field.

15.9. Shirt-swapping

Players are recommended to refrain from swapping their used match shirts.

16.UEFA, Supplier partners, technical suppliers, media and photographers

16.1. General principles

All companies and their staff present on site must comply with the applicable national/local legislation as well as all requirements of the UEFA Protocol, including the mandatory wearing of masks at all times in the stadium on both MD-1 and MD.

Where involvement in a match is arranged by UEFA, the companies implicated may be required to submit details of their own protocols, hygiene measures and operating plans, which must be adhered to if not exceeded by the UEFA Protocol. Suppliers and partners must adhere to any national or local requirements with regard to their operations e.g. use of plexiglass dividers between working positions.

The host team must ensure that any companies or staff present at the stadium are informed of all the local requirements and restrictions, as well as the operational principles of this protocol. The venue HO must ensure that these requirements are respected.

Any bibs used by any staff, suppliers, partners and media must be washed between matches (e.g. steward & security bibs, broadcast & photographer bibs, pitch bibs, LED bibs etc).

17. Broadcast partners and media

In principle, broadcast and media activities may continue subject to the specifications outlined in this section of the protocol.

17.1. Staffing, facilities, and broadcast positions

17.1.1. Broadcast and media staff onsite

The numbers of broadcast staff and media attending a match will be decided based on, inter alia:

- applicable domestic legislation;
- working spaces available (e.g. in the media tribune) with appropriate hygiene measures if required;
- total number of people permitted in the zones, and/or any limitation on the number people allowed in the stadium, under domestic legislation

The following points must be taken into account by all broadcast and media staff onsite:

- Broadcast staff including presenters and commentators, media staff and photographers must wear masks at all times, subject to certain exceptions set out in this Protocol. Each broadcaster or media organisation is responsible for providing masks for its own onsite staff
- All HB camera operators and broadcast technicians operating in or accessing Zone 1 must comply with the requirements set out in section 6.7 above, and must maintain physical distancing and hygiene measures from other members of the HB team.

17.1.2. Broadcast compound and trucks

The compound must be arranged in a way that allows sufficient space for the movement of people without congestion e.g. vehicles appropriately spaced apart, creating additional routes or paths to limit any congestion of people.

17.1.3. Broadcast positions, media and photographers during MD-1 training

As well as the standard Zone 3 positions, broadcast staff, media and photographers may be present in pre-agreed Zone 1/Zone 2 pitchside positions or in the tribunes for the standard pre-agreed open part of any team training session in the stadium, provided that physical distancing is strictly maintained. Manned camera positions should in principle be positioned in Zone 2 or Zone 3, however certain standard manned camera positions may be used in Zone 1 (e.g. pitch-side halfway camera, Steadicams, bench cameras) provided that they can maintain a 1.5m distance from the pitch and pitchside technical areas and the operators (and any required assistants) must comply with the requirements set out in section 6.7.

Remote cameras may be installed in any other standard manned indoor or manned pitchside broadcast camera positions normally used at UEFA matches, subject to UEFA's approval of both the proposed remote camera position and the requested camera usage.

17.1.4. Tunnel cameras

In principle, indoor manned tunnel camera positions should be replaced by remote cameras installed in positions agreed with UEFA. However, if space allows, a manned indoor tunnel camera may exceptionally be permitted in a fixed position, subject to the approval of UEFA, provided that the camera operator complies with the requirements set out in section 6.7, and that a minimum 2m distance from players and staff is maintained at all times.

17.1.5. Broadcast positions during the match

Manned pitch level camera positions will, in principle, only be allowed in Zone 2; however, certain standard manned camera positions may be used in Zone 1 (e.g. pitch-side halfway camera, Steadicams) provided that they can maintain a 1.5m distance from the player warm-up areas, technical areas and team pitchside technical seats, and the assistant referee, that the camera operators and any required assistants must comply with the requirements set out in section 6.7 above. The number permitted is dependent on the camera positions agreed, but in any case operating the following positions/roles – pitchside halfway camera or two 20m cameras, two Steadicams (with assistants) and tunnel camera, as well as any required technicians. Additional camera operators and/or HB technicians, with a clear, specific Zone 1 function, will be permitted subject to the approval of UEFA.

Any manned camera positions in Zone 1 must be specifically reviewed with the HO and UMD.

If manned pitchside camera positions cannot be installed in a way that ensures safe distancing requirements at all times, alternative positions may be located in Zone 3 in the tribunes if matches are played without, or with limited spectators. Alternatively, for such camera positions, as well as for all indoor Zone 1 camera positions (e.g. tunnel cameras), remote cameras may be installed additionally or instead, subject to UEFA's approval.

Pitch reporter positions may be located at pitch level in Zone 1 outside the benches if space permits with the safe distancing mentioned above. If there is no sufficient position in Zone 1 respecting these distancing requirements, then suitable positions must be identified in Zone 2, or in Zone 3 in the tribune, depending on the stadium configuration.

Manned 'Bench-cams' i.e. cameras whose primary purpose is to film coach/bench reactions may be positioned either between or outside the benches when the distancing requirements mentioned above allow. When there is not sufficient spacing available between the benches, solutions must be found using alternative positions.

17.1.6. Photographers during the match

The maximum number of photographers is determined in accordance with the space available and any distancing requirements imposed by the authorities. If space behind the

goals is limited, additional pitch photographer positions may be located in Zone 2 on the touchline opposite the team benches, between the corner flags and the 16m line.

All photographer positions must be in clearly marked positions in Zone 2.

In the case of a penalty shoot-out, photographers may be granted permission to move into unoccupied marked photographer positions at the other end of the pitch.

For matches played without spectators, in addition to the pitch photographer positions, additional photographers may work from the tribunes, subject to the agreement of UEFA.

Photographers may install remote cameras behind the goals in Zone 1, provided such cameras are installed before the start of the warm-up. Remote cameras may also be checked at half-time provided that no players are on the pitch.

One photographer may, subject to UEFA approval, be permitted to access Zone 1 before kick-off for the purpose of the pre-match team photos.

17.1.7. Commentary positions and media tribune

The allocation of media seating in the outdoor commentary positions and media tribune may be assigned without any physical distancing requirements, unless otherwise required by the authorities. When in operations, commentators are temporarily exempt from the requirement to wear a mask, but must still wear one at all other times.

17.1.8. Media and photographer working areas

Indoor media and photographer working areas may be used if enough space is available to allow physical distancing (at least 2.25m² per person). Useable working desks must be clearly marked. Media and photographers must be assigned desks in these working areas and must not change positions.

Food and beverages may be provided if due measures have been taken for their preparation, packaging, distribution and consumption.

17.2. Broadcast and media activities

17.2.1. Broadcast and media operations

The following points must be taken into account during all broadcast operations:

- Microphones used for interviews must be wrapped in plastic which must be changed between each interview. Alternatively, the microphone windshield must be disinfected or replaced between each interview. Each broadcaster must provide to their staff the material required for this.
- Reporters must use their own IFB earpiece which must not be shared, or alternatively speakers must be installed at the interview position.
- Single-use IFB earpieces may be proposed and provided to interviewees subject to the approval of UEFA.
- Broadcast staff and photographers must use hand sanitizer before collecting, returning and/or distributing bibs.

17.2.2. Press conferences

Pre- and post-match press conferences may be held as usual. They may either be organised with a video conferencing/remote system or by taking the following physical protection measures:

- Press conference podium at least 2m from the first row of seats and any photographer positions
- Separate and exclusive access for the team representatives must be used wherever possible. If the press conference room has a single entrance, access must be strictly controlled to avoid any crossover between the teams and media.
- Number of media who can attend must be adapted so that a 1.5m distance between each person can be respected at all times
- Photographer positions must be arranged by the match organiser to ensure a 1.5m minimum distance between each position and to other media representatives
- During remote press conferences media representatives may remove their masks when asking their question(s) provided proper physical distancing is maintained
- Recording devices (Dictaphones, mobile phones etc) must not be placed on the press conference podium
- The press conference podium must be disinfected between press conferences and the podium microphones must be changed or disinfected
- For translation purposes, the use of earpieces or headsets may be permitted, subject to the approval of UEFA and the agreement of the team. In such circumstances, each team is provided with its own set of equipment and all equipment is fully disinfected between matches.

17.2.3. Dressing room filming

HB cameras and reporters will not be allowed to enter team dressing rooms for filming or pre-match stand-ups. Alternative solutions (e.g. remote cameras) may be considered subject to the approval of UEFA and the relevant team, or dressing room filming may be performed by a maximum of two members of the team's own media channel as long as they are part of the team Zone 1 delegation and subject to conditions agreed.

17.2.4. Filming team arrivals

One manned camera position at the team bus drop-off point in a fixed position pre-agreed by UEFA at a minimum of 1.5m distance from players and team staff routes. If space and distancing permits, additional remote or manned camera position between the bus drop-off point and the team dressing rooms may be permitted subject to the agreement of UEFA.

17.2.5. Pre-match stand ups

Stand-up positions may be allocated outdoors in Zone 2. The maximum number of positions available will depend on the stadium configuration.

The number of persons per position is, in principle, limited to eight per position at any one time (including any interview guest). When presenting to camera or conducting interviews, reporters are temporarily exempt from the requirement to wear a mask, but must still wear one at all other times. The reporters must keep a minimum 2m distance from members of the team delegation during any interviews, and must keep 1.5m distance from all other members of the crew (including co-presenters).

17.2.6. Post-match flash interviews

Post-match interviews may be organised on/around the pitch in outdoor Zone 2 areas once the teams have left the immediate area of the pitch surroundings, or in a suitable pre-approved indoor location. The allocated area must allow for 4m² per person and must allow for at least 1.5m between the markings of each position.

- In outdoor flash interview areas the reporter and camera crew must at all times maintain at least 2m distance from the interviewee, but during this time reporters are temporarily exempt from wearing a mask.
- In indoor flash interview areas the reporter and camera crew must also at all times maintain at least 2m distance from the interviewee, but in indoor areas the use of masks must be maintained at all times even during interviews.

Common sense must prevail in terms of location and access of flash interview positions. For example, a player may be asked to leave Zone 1 to access the flash location – if the location is nearby and all contact can be avoided then this is acceptable. An accompanying steward may be considered. All arrangements must be discussed and agreed beforehand between the HB, team representative and UEFA (for all centralised matches).

17.2.7. Mixed zones

Mixed zones involving face-to-face contact between teams and the media must not be organised. This is due to the need to avoid congestion of media representatives as well as to reduce risk of close proximity between teams and the media. Remote mixed zone solutions may be implemented provided that the required sanitary measures in terms of physical distancing and disinfection of equipment. Remote mixed zone set-up must be disinfected between each attendee. The organisation and location of remote mixed zones is to be agreed in advance with UEFA.

18. Adoption and entry into force

This Protocol was adopted by the UEFA Executive Committee on 9 July 2020, with amendments approved on 24 September 2020, 3 December 2020, 5 May 2021 and 4 September 2021, with the latest amendments approved and coming into force on 2 February 2022.

Annex A – Illness Record Form

The below Illness Record Form template to be used for a UPAP recommendation is to be found in the UEFA Return to Play folder in TIME Documents.

Personal Details

Name/Surname	Date of Birth	Club/NA	Role	Position within Club (if staff member)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Player <input type="checkbox"/> Staff member <input type="checkbox"/> UEFA match officers/venue team members Nationality:	

Anamnestic Data / History

Please describe your illness record related to Covid-19 (When did you contract the virus? When did you tested positive? How long did you encounter symptoms related to the virus? For how long have you been asymptomatic?)

Symptoms

Please describe your symptoms:

Decision

What was the decision taken by the local/national authorities, if any?

Findings / Results

Please upload all your findings via this [link](#) . Please make sure to name all your documents accordingly:

- CLUB_SURNAME_Illness record
- CLUB_SURNAME_laboratory report
- CLUB_SURNAME_serology report
- Etc.

Request to the UEFA Protocol Advisory Panel (UPAP):

Please specify what you are requesting from the UPAP? (e.g. for purely information purposes, expert advice, support related to the communication with the competent authorities etc.)

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Once completed, please return a copy to: covid19testing@uefa.ch

Annex B – Team Testing Declaration Form



COVID-19 Testing
Reciprocal Testing Declaration Form

COVID-19 Team Reciprocal Testing 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 _____ have on the following date, _____, undergone a test for COVID-19 and have returned a negative test result.

The test performed was the following (see UEFA Protocol [s6.5.1](#)):

- PCR Test
- Antigen Test

** Please note that this testing is without prejudice to the testing required for persons in Category B under the UEFA Return to Play Protocol*

I confirm this test is equivalent to the testing requirements imposed by the relevant authorities on the visiting team delegation to travel to the match venue.

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): _____

Team main contact

Name: _____

Signature: _____

This form must be signed by both the team doctor and the team main contact. The form must be provided to the UEFA Delegate at the latest by 10:30am MD morning together with a full list of the names of the team travelling delegation.

The UEFA Delegate must email a copy of each form to covid19testing@uefa.ch including the match name and "Reciprocal Testing declaration form" in the email subject line.