

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

**THE UNION DES ASSOCIATIONS EUROPEENNES DE FOOTBALL
(HEREAFTER UEFA)**

and

**THE EUROPEAN CLUB ASSOCIATION
(HEREAFTER ECA)**

Whereas:

- UEFA is the governing body for football at European level in accordance with FIFA and UEFA Statutes;
- ECA is the association representing the interests of professional European football clubs at European and global level in accordance with its Statutes;
- UEFA and ECA wish to continue to promote unity among all stakeholders in European football and take care of specific matters of concern to club football;
- UEFA and ECA have concluded Memorandums of Understanding on 21 January 2008, 22 March 2012, 24 March 2015, and 6 February 2019, with which they established, and subsequently strengthened, the basis for their co-operation;
- UEFA and ECA wish to continue and reinforce their relationship, by implementing a new arrangement, in accordance with the principles set out in this Memorandum of Understanding;
- The Statutes of UEFA foresee that UEFA may recognise groups representing the interests of stakeholders in European football, provided they are constituted in a democratic, open and transparent manner and share UEFA values; and
- The Statutes of ECA envisage an on-going cooperation and dialogue between ECA and UEFA for the purpose of reaching common agreement in relation to matters of concern to European professional club football.

NOW THEREFORE, UEFA and ECA (hereinafter "the Parties") agree to enter into this **Agreement**.

A. BASIS OF COOPERATION

The basis for this Agreement is as follows:

- A.1 UEFA recognises ECA as the sole body representing the interests of European clubs at European and global level and ECA recognises (i) UEFA as the governing body of football at European level and (ii) FIFA as the governing body of football at Worldwide level (the recognition of FIFA subject to Articles E.10 and E.11 of this Agreement);
- A.2 UEFA and ECA undertake to strengthen their cooperation and dialogue as regards matters of importance to European club football;
- A.3 UEFA and ECA share the following values and principles:
- a commitment to the principle of solidarity as a key element necessary for the healthy and balanced development of football;
 - a commitment to ensure that standards and principles of good governance, such as accountability, democracy, stakeholder participation/representation and transparency are firmly embedded within football governance structures;
 - a commitment to promote and reinforce the financial sustainability of European club football;
 - a commitment to open and balanced sporting competitions;
 - the recognition of the specific nature of sport and therefore the proper autonomy of its governing bodies as generally recognised;
 - a commitment to protect and develop a large and healthy professional football pyramid;
 - a commitment to invest in and promote the training of young talented players in the long-term interest of football;
 - a commitment to ensure that players benefit from suitable education pathways throughout their sporting careers;
 - a commitment to fair play and to the fight against racism, doping, violence, match-fixing and corruption in football; and
 - a commitment to close collaboration and collective action to accelerate the promotion of effective environmental sustainability and social responsibility policies and actions in European football.
- A.4 More specifically, the Parties recognise that:
- both national team and club football provide substantial benefits to players, clubs, leagues and associations;

- full and loyal participation of players and clubs in national and international competitions, is essential to support the existence of a large and healthy professional football pyramid;
- it is critical to continue the development of the women's football game via appropriate competition structures, commercial strategies, regulatory modernisation and oversight, and development projects which involve all relevant stakeholders;
- effective solidarity payments are a vital part of the overall system and must be based on a set of objective criteria, to ensure that solidarity in all its forms achieves the core objective of balanced and sustainable development of the entire football pyramid;
- it is important to promote the training and development of players and to maintain competitive balance in the interests of the sport and the public;
- there is a need to preserve the values of sport and, in particular, to protect its integrity;
- there is a need to find the right balance between labour legislation and the specific characteristics of football, for example through the vehicle of social dialogue and/or collective bargaining agreements;
- sports related disputes shall be resolved within appropriate sports and dispute resolution structures;
- strong national championships as well as the international competitions organised by UEFA are vital for the on-going and healthy development of football; and
- national and UEFA club competitions are integrally linked to one another.

B. OBJECTIVES OF COOPERATION

To protect and promote these values and principles, the Parties agree:

- B.1 to promote cooperation, friendly relations and unity between UEFA and ECA in the interests of European football and in accordance with the existing framework of UEFA and FIFA (the recognition of FIFA subject to Articles E.10 and E.11 of this Agreement);
- B.2 to safeguard the balanced evolution of European football, both domestically and internationally, in accordance with the principles of solidarity, financial sustainability and integrity of competition;
- B.3 to ensure that the views of the clubs are properly represented in the decision-making process in European football structures;
- B.4 to ensure, through concrete actions, the continued prominence of football within society and that the professional game remains at the pinnacle of the global sports landscape, and

- B.5 to reinforce the European Sports Model and the football pyramid to protect football from breakaway initiatives that would undermine the principle of fair and open competitions based on sporting merit.

C. UNDERTAKINGS OF UEFA

To facilitate cooperation and achieve the shared objectives set out in this Agreement, UEFA undertakes as follows:

- C.1 to recognise ECA as an established employers' organisation in European club football and the sole body representing the interests of European clubs at European and global level on the basis of ECA's Statutes as approved on 28 March 2023 (including any future amendment that UEFA considers consistent with the objectives and principles of this Agreement);
- C.2 to involve ECA in UEFA's decision-making process, in application of commonly agreed good governance principles, as follows:
- ECA representation in the UEFA Executive Committee (hereinafter the "UEFA ExCo"): ECA shall elect 2 full members for the UEFA ExCo, in accordance with the UEFA Statutes;
 - ECA representation in the Professional Football Strategy Council or any replacement UEFA body involving the main stakeholders in professional football in Europe;
 - Club Competitions Committee (hereinafter "CCC"): the members shall be representatives of clubs nominated by ECA (according to a process to be agreed by the Parties) and ratified by the UEFA ExCo (except for the chairman and two deputy chairmen who shall be members of the UEFA ExCo). Whilst the participation in the CCC of any members representing other stakeholders is subject to agreement between the Parties, ECA confirms its approval of the current representative of the European Leagues in the CCC until the end of the UEFA Organs and Bodies cycle 2023-27. It is furthermore agreed that, except for those business matters that are within the scope of responsibilities of UEFA Club Competitions SA (hereinafter "UCCSA"), any matter having a material impact on UEFA club competitions (such as proposed changes to the format, access or distribution models of UEFA club competitions or to any relevant regulation on UEFA club competitions or any other relevant financial matters) shall be submitted to, and reviewed by, the CCC, which shall then present its conclusions/findings/position to the UEFA ExCo for a final decision in accordance with the UEFA Statutes. Should the UEFA ExCo disagree with the conclusions/findings/position presented by the CCC, then the UEFA ExCo shall refer the issue back to the CCC for further consideration with the request to make a new proposal. In case of a "dead-lock situation", the UEFA President and the ECA Chairman shall discuss a solution in good faith and, if they cannot reach any agreement, the status quo shall continue to apply, unless because of imperative reasons an amendment cannot be delayed any further (whereas in such urgent cases, only preliminary decisions can be taken). Finally, the CCC shall be consulted on any other matter having an impact on club competitions, including disciplinary matters;

- as from the start of the UEFA Organs and Bodies cycle 2023-27, ECA representation in UEFA structures shall include the Players' Status, Transfer and Agents and Match Agents Committee, the Club Licensing Committee, the Fair-Play and Social Responsibility Committee, the Legal Committee, the Football Committee, the Media Committee, the Marketing Advisory Committee, the Medical Committee, the National Associations Committee, the Youth and Amateur Football Committee, the Development and Technical Assistance Committee, the Stadium and Security Committee, the Women's Football Committee and the Board of UEFA Events SA. In these UEFA bodies, committees or working groups where it participates, ECA shall be granted full membership. The ECA representatives will be appointed by the UEFA ExCo upon nomination by ECA. UEFA undertakes to consider appointing, when deemed relevant, club representatives to other UEFA bodies, committees or working groups;
- C.3 to distribute every four years an amount (hereinafter the "Distribution Amount") – generated by UEFA from the UEFA European Football Championship (hereinafter the "UEFA EURO") and national team football in general - to National Associations for them to pass on to their clubs who have contributed to the successful staging of a UEFA EURO or national team football in general. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties, the Distribution Amount shall be allocated and distributed in accordance with the rules and methodology as approved by the UEFA ExCo in April 2022 for application to the UEFA EURO 2024 and the UEFA Nations League. The Parties can agree on new specific distribution criteria based on fair and democratic principles, prior to the UEFA EURO 2028 final tournament. For the avoidance of doubt, the Distribution Amount as well as the FIFA Club Protection Programme mentioned in Article C.11 below, cover any and all claims of a club, including insurance and any other matter related to the participation of players of European National Associations and, for the insurance part, also of non-European National Associations in national team competitions and friendly matches.

For the avoidance of doubt, there will be no additional payments from UEFA or any European National Association in relation to the release, insurance (for the insurance part also from non-European National Associations) or participation of players in national teams. The foregoing does not limit the right of European National Associations to agree with their clubs on revenue sharing schemes on a pure domestic basis.

The Distribution Amount will be as follows:

- 8% of the gross revenue from the UEFA EURO 2024 and UEFA EURO 2028 final tournaments, with a minimum of EUR 200 million each; and
- an amount equivalent to 4% of the gross revenue from the UEFA Nations League (2024/25, 2026/27 and 2028/29), with a minimum of EUR 60 million for all three editions;

The Parties will continue to work together to transform the existing benefits for women's club football into a club benefits programme for women's national team football;

- C.4 to ensure, also with the involvement of FIFA where appropriate, that National Association members of UEFA will comply with the FIFA and UEFA rules regarding club matters and player release. In particular, to undertake best efforts

- to ensure that European National Associations do not call up players to their national teams prior to the applicable release dates;
- C.5 to ensure to the best of its ability that FIFA introduces within its regulations an exemption from compulsory release of players in cases of mandatory quarantine due to health reasons of at least five days upon return to the club, provided that no exemptions or alternative measures are granted by the competent authorities;
 - C.6 to remind European National Associations of the need to respect the International Match Calendar and the applicable release rules/dates, notwithstanding that bilateral Club/National Association agreements in deviation are possible;
 - C.7 to schedule and/or approve all national team matches (official and friendlies) in accordance with the International Match Calendar;
 - C.8 not to introduce any new national team fixture dates or competitions/tournaments, except with the agreement of the ECA;
 - C.9 to acknowledge that ECA will be financed from the participating clubs' share of the surplus which is available each season for redistribution from the UEFA Club Competitions;
 - C.10 to invite representatives of ECA to UEFA's Congress as observers;
 - C.11 to take over, at any moment and with regard to men's and women's national team matches played by players registered with a club of a European National Association, the FIFA Club Protection Programme at the same conditions as applied in accordance with the FIFA Circular Letter 1852 of 29 July 2023 and its enclosed Technical Bulletin, should FIFA discontinue it for any reason. Furthermore, UEFA will investigate the feasibility of extending the existing FIFA Club Protection Programme to players involved in men's U21 and U19 national team matches. In such cases, the Parties shall discuss in good faith the potential costs implications.

D. UNDERTAKINGS OF ECA

To facilitate cooperation and to achieve the shared objectives set out in this Agreement, ECA undertakes as follows:

- D.1 to recognise UEFA as the governing body of football at European level in accordance with its Statutes;
- D.2 to organise itself as an association which is open (i.e. to clubs of all UEFA member associations), democratic (in line with its current Statutes) and transparent (i.e. clear and non-confrontational objectives in its Statutes) and to inform UEFA in advance with respect to any amendment to the ECA Statutes in order to ensure and maintain consistency with the objectives and principles established under this Agreement;
- D.3 to ensure that none of its member clubs participate with any of its teams in any competition that is not organised or recognised by UEFA/FIFA;

- D.4 to ensure that its member clubs are not members of any other association or grouping involving clubs from more than one country (i.e. one National Association);
- D.5 to ensure that its member clubs withdraw support and cease to be party to any existing legal proceedings, and not to support or be party itself to any existing legal proceedings, against UEFA and/or any other European National Associations (the latter does not concern purely domestic relations between National Associations and their clubs) brought by themselves or any association or grouping as mentioned in Article D.4 above;
- D.6 to ensure that its member clubs and itself support national team competitions; and make no further claims (a) in relation to the cost of insurance of players against UEFA and/or any National Association or (b) in relation to any other matter relating to the release or participation of players to European national teams in general against UEFA and/or any European National Associations for all matches foreseen in the International Match Calendar;
- D.7 to undertake good faith efforts in supporting the release, by its member clubs, of players for the UEFA age-limited national team competitions including for final tournaments which are scheduled on dates outside the International Match Calendar, provided that the relevant release dates would not conflict with competitions in which ECA member clubs are involved;
- D.8 to promote that its member clubs adhere to the UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Sustainability Regulations and accept their implementation and enforcement through UEFA;
- D.9 to adhere to the UEFA and the FIFA Statutes and regulations (regarding FIFA, subject to Articles E.10 and E.11) and to recognise the Court of Arbitration for Sport (hereinafter "CAS") as the sole competent body to decide on sports related disputes (in particular disputes related to Club Licensing and Financial Sustainability, disciplinary matters, to the participation in or exclusion from competitions and to the players release rules) between ECA, its member clubs and UEFA (and its members), including for provisional or super-provisional measures, to the explicit exclusion of any State court;
- D.10 to acknowledge that compliance with all these conditions is necessary for ECA to be recognised as the sole body representing the interests of European clubs at European and global level and therefore as qualified to participate in the UEFA decision-making process and, accordingly, to ensure that all member clubs of ECA comply with all the conditions contained in this Agreement; and
- D.11 to invite representatives of UEFA to its General Assembly as observers.

E. JOINT UNDERTAKINGS

- E.1 The ECA commits that all its clubs comply with the provisions of this Agreement (including its Annexes) and UEFA commits that all its member associations comply with the provisions of this Agreement (including its Annexes).
- E.2 The Parties agree to continue to cooperate for the further development of UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Sustainability which is an initiative undertaken in a

collaborative manner to protect the viability, sustainability and benefit of European club football as a whole.

- E.3 The Parties agree to abide by the Men's International Match Calendar issued by FIFA for the period 2023-30 as per Circular n°1840 and attached as Annex 2 of this Agreement (hereinafter the "International Match Calendar") and will undertake to ensure that their respective members fully respect said calendar (Articles E.10 and E.11 of this Agreement remaining reserved). Should the Men's International Match Calendar be changed or amended during the term of this Agreement and should either party not be in a position to accept any such changes or amendments, then the Parties shall agree to implement in the European territory the calendar set out in Annex 2. The Parties further acknowledge that FIFA extended the Women's international match calendar until the end of 2025. For the period post-2025, the Parties shall cooperate closely to agree on a common European position. Once the women's international match calendar is confirmed, the Parties and their respective members shall agree to abide by its terms.
- E.4 The Parties agree that the rules for the release of players to the national teams, with which they agree to comply, are as specified in Annex 1 of the current FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players ("RSTP"). Should FIFA unilaterally amend the above rules and either of the Parties could not agree to the new rules (including for the avoidance of doubt, the obligation for clubs to release players only on the dates included in the applicable international match calendar), the Parties hereby agree to continue to comply with the current rules, respectively, for the European clubs and the National Association members of UEFA.
- E.5 The Parties shall facilitate the proper and effective operation of UCCSA as the joint venture between UEFA and ECA entrusted with managing the business and commercial elements of UEFA club competitions, in accordance with and by adhering at all times to the then current shareholders' agreement existing between the Parties (hereinafter "Shareholders' Agreement").
- UEFA, as the governing body of European football, will remain solely responsible for all sporting, regulatory and organisational matters.
- E.6 The Parties agree to safeguard the principle of solidarity and redistribution of club competition revenues to the participating and non-participating clubs for UEFA's men club competition cycle 2024/27 in accordance with Annex 1 of this Agreement as approved by the UEFA ExCo. Any changes for cycle 2027/30 shall be agreed in full compliance with the competences and procedures relating to the CCC as set out in Article C.2 of this Agreement.
- E.7 The format and access of the UEFA club competitions for cycle 2024/27 shall respect the features set out in Annex 3 of this Agreement. The Parties agree to assess and modify, if deemed necessary, the format, access and revenue distribution related to the UEFA Women's Champions League, as part of a wider discussion between the Parties on the future UEFA post-2025 women's club competitions' landscape.
- E.8 The Parties agree that all men's continental tournaments should be aligned in summer of even years when a men's World Cup does not take place and scheduled in a timely manner as part of the International Match Calendar.

- E.9 The Parties agree that the last match played in any men's international window shall be held on Tuesday in order to allow for a minimum of two full rest days before the potential scheduling of a subsequent domestic league match.
- E.10 The Parties agree that if the agreement currently in place between FIFA and ECA (which is set to expire on 31 December 2030) expires or is terminated before the expiry or termination of this Agreement, ECA and its member clubs will not – either on the basis of this Agreement or of any other agreement to be concluded in the future between the Parties – be bound (i) to comply with any FIFA regulations, including those relating to the release of players for non-European National Associations, or (ii) to participate in any FIFA competitions, after the expiry date or the date of termination (as applicable) of such agreement.

For the avoidance of doubt, this Agreement continues to apply in full, in particular with regards to all matches (e.g. European Qualifiers, UEFA Nations League, friendlies etc.) of European National Associations played on dates specified in the International Match Calendar, until the expiry of this Agreement. Subject to Article E.4, the Parties thus underline that the RSTP and the International Match Calendar will be complied with by the ECA and its member clubs with regard to European National Associations until the expiry of this Agreement, even if the agreement between FIFA and the ECA is no longer in force and even in the case that the RSTP should be declared – partially or fully – null and void. In other words, for the mentioned matches of European National Associations, ECA and its member clubs will comply with the RSTP rules currently in force independently of whether such rules have been declared null and void or not.

- E.11 For the avoidance of doubt, in case the agreement currently in place between ECA and FIFA is no longer in force (within the meaning of Article E.10), this Agreement shall not serve as a legal basis to oblige ECA and its member clubs towards FIFA and the non-European National Associations (a) to acknowledge any FIFA rules and regulations including FIFA's decisions/changes to the International Match Calendar, nor (b) to be integrated in FIFA structures or to take part in FIFA club competitions, other than agreed between UEFA and ECA in this Agreement or otherwise agreed between the Parties (in particular in accordance with Article C.2 above). It is for example agreed between UEFA and ECA that, subject to Article E.4, the FIFA rules which are necessary for the good running of football (such as e.g. the RSTP) will continue to apply in the relation between ECA and its members and UEFA and the European National Associations, respectively. This applies for instance also until the expiry of this Agreement, to the release of players of ECA members to European National Associations for any competition to which the European National Associations will participate.
- E.12 The Parties acknowledge and agree that they have a core responsibility to strengthen good governance practices to ensure the healthy evolution of football in Europe. Accordingly, the Parties agree to promote good governance models in National Associations, which includes stakeholder participation/representation, and in particular clubs, in the decision-making process. Equally, the Parties will promote the development and implementation of good-governance standards at club level. The Parties will discuss in good faith the most appropriate actions to be jointly undertaken in this regard.
- E.13 The Parties shall commit to work together in good faith to advance the following projects for the benefit of European club football: (i) best practices for sharing and access to intelligence, data, knowledge and research between the Parties for the

development of men's, women's and youth football; and (ii) the appropriate and ambitious implementation of social impact & responsibility; equality, diversity & inclusion; fan support and engagement and environmental policies, throughout the European football pyramid.

- E.14 The Parties agree to undertake joint work to draw up and support a "Clubs/National Associations Collaboration Charter" that will set out rights and obligations of the Parties on the occasion of the release of players, with a view to enhancing trust and cooperation between clubs and national teams, ensuring the best management of players during their duties with national teams and enabling smooth and transparent access to relevant information. The Charter will include a medical protocol regulating the relationships between club and national team doctors, providing guidelines for the sharing of information and decision-making in case of injuries or health issues. A permanent Observatory will be appointed (composed of representatives of Clubs and National Associations). Once the Charter has been agreed upon, the Parties will both promote its global implementation.
- E.15 The Parties acknowledge and agree that the integrity of football is of paramount importance to its continuing credibility and attractiveness. Accordingly, the Parties will strengthen their efforts in the fight against threats to football such as violence, discrimination, match-fixing and doping to ensure a positive future for the sport across the continent.
- E.16 The Parties agree to inform each other in due time if and when:
- UEFA envisages introducing (or is approached by any third party about the possibility of introducing) any new national team competition or envisages amending (or is approached by any third party about the possibility of amending) the format of an existing national team competition; and
 - ECA is approached by any third party about the possibility of introducing any new or amended club competition.
- In such circumstances (and without prejudice to Article C.8), the Parties shall properly consult and engage with each other in order for their respective interests and views to be taken into account before any such new or amended competition is approved.
- E.17 The Parties will nominate a representative to be appointed on each other's Foundation Board, i.e. UEFA will nominate one representative for the Board of the ECA Foundation, and the ECA will nominate one representative for the Board of Trustees of the UEFA Foundation for Children.

F. ENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENTS AND DURATION

- F.1 This Agreement shall enter into force at the date it is validly signed by the Parties.
- F.2 Amendments to this Agreement shall be agreed and signed by both Parties and shall be in writing.
- F.3 For the avoidance of doubt, none of the above undertakings, acknowledgements or any other provision of this Agreement will enter into force before the signature nor exceed the duration of this Agreement.


- F.4 The term of this Agreement will run until 31 July 2030 and cover in particular the UEFA EURO 2024, the UEFA EURO 2028 and all matches played by European National Association teams until 31 July 2030. In due time prior to the end of the term, the Parties will decide on an extension.
- F.5 The Parties have the right to terminate the Agreement with effect from the end of a UEFA club competition season in case of a substantial breach of this Agreement without having been remedied within a reasonable period of time as well as in case the UEFA ExCo issues a decision which has a material impact on UEFA club competitions against a conclusion/finding/position of the CCC presented by the CCC to the UEFA ExCo in accordance with Article C.2 above. For the avoidance of doubt, in such a case the payment foreseen in Article C.3 above regarding any UEFA EUROs and/or other national team competitions or matches taking place after the effective date of the termination of this Agreement will not be due. For the avoidance of doubt, the termination right as per this Article F.5 does not limit or exclude any other right that either party may have under the applicable rules.
- F.6 The Parties agree that, following the expiry of this Agreement, they generally intend to continue their cooperation on the basis of this Agreement, unless there are considerable changes in circumstances or the Parties decide otherwise.
- F.7 It is the common understanding of the Parties that in order to benefit from the provisions of this Agreement, in particular as regards the payments set out in Article C.3 above, any club (whether or not a member of the ECA) must comply with the conditions contained in this Agreement. In this respect, any club wishing to receive payments for its contribution to the success of international competitions, and in particular the successful staging of the UEFA EURO™, will be required to confirm to UEFA that it accepts and complies with the principles established in this Agreement.
- F.8 This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding of the Parties relating to the matters addressed therein and entirely supersedes any previous agreement between the Parties in connection thereto, with the exception of any necessary provision set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding of 6 February 2019 which, subject to the terms of this Agreement, shall continue to be in full force and effect until 31 July 2024.

G. APPLICABLE LAW AND JURISDICTION

This Agreement is a binding agreement and shall be governed by substantive Swiss law. Disputes arising out of this Agreement between UEFA and the ECA (and/or its member clubs) shall exclusively be decided by the CAS in Lausanne (Switzerland).


Berlin, 6 September 2023

For **UEFA**:



Aleksander Čeferin, President

For **ECA**:



Nasser Al-Khelaifi, Chairman

ANNEX 1

**UEFA CLUB COMPETITIONS CYCLE 2024-27
MODEL OF REDISTRIBUTION OF CLUB COMPETITION REVENUES**

- Projected threshold for the global split: **€4.4bn**
- **10%** is allocated to solidarity as follows: **€440m**
 - o **7%** to Non-participating clubs **€308m**
 - o **3%** to qualifying rounds clubs **€132m**
 - **€25m** are reserved for the UEFA Women's Champions League (€20 m) and UEFA Youth League.
 - The net amount (after deduction of costs and solidarity + other competitions) is shared between Participating clubs (**93.5%**) and UEFA (**6.5%**).
 - The share for Participating clubs is allocated to the three competitions in the same proportion as currently:
 - o UCL: 74.38%
 - o UEL: 17.02%
 - o UECL: 8.60%
 - The competition distribution is based on three pillars:
 - o For UCL and UEL:
 - Equal shares: **27.5%** (+2.5% vs cycle 2021-24)
 - Performance: **37.5%** (+7.5%)
 - Value (merger of former Market Pool and Coefficient pillars): **35%** (-10% combined)
 - o For UECL (no change vs cycle 2021-24):
 - Equal shares: **40%**
 - Performance: **40%**
 - Value: **20%**
 - The surplus (revenues above €4.4bn) is shared only between Participating clubs (93.5%) and UEFA (6.5%). The allocation to competition shares and distribution pillars does not change.

	m€	% overall	% net
Overall income	4'400	100.0	
Competition Cost	387	8.80	
Qualifying Rounds	132	3.00	465m€ 10.6%
Non-Participating clubs	308	7.00	
Contribution to UWCL+UYL	25	0.57	
Net Result	3'548	80.64	
UEFA	230.6	5.24	6.5
Participating Clubs	3'317.4	75.40	93.5

**ANNEX 2
INTERNATIONAL MATCH CALENDAR**



TO THE MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1840

Zurich, 6 April 2023

Updates on the Men's and Women's International Match Calendars

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to share the International Match Calendars with you for the upcoming years for both men and women, as approved by the FIFA Council at its most recent meeting in Kigali on 14 March 2023.

The International Match Calendars provide the regulatory and operational framework for the harmonious coexistence of club and national team football across the global football ecosystem.

Following extensive analysis and consultation by the FIFA administration, the confirmation of the International Match Calendars therefore provides clarity and certainty for the years ahead, enabling all participants and stakeholders to plan accordingly.

Men's International Match Calendar

The updated Men's International Match Calendar is enclosed and available on FIFA.com.

As of 2026, a new 16-day window with four matches will take place in September/October, replacing the two nine-day windows with two matches each that previously took place during those months. This change will be assessed and subject to continuous consultation during the first three years of its implementation with the option to revert to the previous format.

Specific attention is drawn to the inclusion of the FIFA World Cup 2026™ in the Men's International Match Calendar, whereby the FIFA Council approved the start of the mandatory rest and release period for all players beginning on Monday, 25 May 2026, with exemptions granted, following FIFA approval, to those players whose clubs would be participating in a final of a continental club competition up until 30 May 2026. The final of the FIFA World Cup 2026 will take place on 19 July 2026, with the date of the opening match to be confirmed in due course. The total release period, therefore, remains in line with that of past editions of the FIFA World Cup having taken place in the same period in previous cycles.

The placement of the CAF Africa Cup of Nations during the time period covered will be determined in due course.

**Women's International Match Calendar**

The updated Women's International Match Calendar is enclosed and available on [FIFA.com](https://www.fifa.com).

The placement of the CAF Women's Africa Cup of Nations during the time period covered will be determined in due course.

The details of the Women's International Match Calendar for the post-2025 period will be subject to further consultation between all relevant stakeholders and will be determined and communicated in due course.

We thank you for your kind attention to the above and remain at your disposal should you have any queries in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'FS', is written over a horizontal line.

Fatma Samoura
Secretary General

Encl.: - Men's International Match Calendar 2023-2030
- Women's International Match Calendar 2023-2025

Cc: - FIFA Council
- Confederations
- ECA
- FIFPRO
- World Leagues Forum

FIFA

**Men's International Match
Calendar 2023-2030**

MEN'S INTERNATIONAL MATCH CALENDAR 2023-2030



FIXED DATES FOR INTERNATIONAL "A" MATCHES

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2023	January		
	February		
	20-28 March	2	2
	April		
	May		
	12-20 June	2	2
	June - July	Concacaf Gold Cup 24 June - 16 July	
	August		
	4-12 September	2	2
	9-17 October	2	2
	13-21 November	2	2
	December		

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2024	January - February	AFC Asian Cup 12 January - 10 February CAF Africa Cup of Nations 13 January - 11 February	
	18-26 March	2	2
	April		
	May		
	3-11 June	2 (for all confederations except UEFA)	2
	June - July	UEFA EURO 14 June - 14 July CONMEBOL Copa América 14 June - 14 July	
	August		
	2-10 September	2	2
	7-15 October	2	2
	11-19 November	2	2
	December		

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2025	January	-	-
	February	-	-
	17-25 March	2	2
	April	-	-
	May	-	-
	2-10 June	2	2
	June - July	Concacaf Gold Cup	-
	August	-	-
	1-9 September	2	2
	6-14 October	2	2
	10-18 November	2	2
	December	-	-

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2026	January	-	-
	February	-	-
	23-31 March	2	2
	April	-	-
	May	-	-
	1-9 June	2*	2*
	TBC - 19 July	FIFA World Cup 2026™ ¹	-
	August	-	-
	21 September – 6 October	4	4
	9-17 November	2	2
	December	-	-

* Reserved for friendlies in the preparation phase of the FIFA World Cup 2026™.

¹ The rest and release period for the FIFA World Cup 2026 will begin on Monday, 25 May 2026, with exceptions for players involved in the final matches of confederation club tournaments, as approved by FIFA, up to and including 30 May 2026.

April 2023

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2027	January	AFC Asian Cup	-
	February	-	-
	22-30 March	2	2
	April	-	-
	May	-	-
	7-15 June	2	2
	June - July	Concacaf Gold Cup	-
	August	-	-
	20 September - 5 October	4	4
	8-16 November	2	2
	December	-	-

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2028	January	-	-
	February	-	-
	20-28 March	2	2
	April	-	-
	29 May – 6 June	2*	2*
	June – July	UEFA EURO CONMEBOL Copa América OFC Nations Cup	-
	August	-	-
	18 September – 3 October	4	4
	13-21 November	2	2
	December	-	-

* Reserved for official matches or friendlies in the preparation phase of the respective continental final tournaments.

April 2023

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2029	January	-	-
	February	-	-
	19-27 March	2	2
	April	-	-
	May	-	-
	4-12 June	2	2
	June - July	Concacaf Gold Cup	-
	August	-	-
	24 September - 9 October	4	4
	12-20 November	2	2
	December	-	-

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2030	January	-	-
	February	-	-
	18-26 March	2	2
	April	-	-
	May	-	-
	3-11 June	2*	2*
	June - July	FIFA World Cup 2030™	-
	August	-	-
	23 September - 8 October	4	4
	11-19 November	2	2
	December	-	-

* Reserved for friendlies in the preparation phase of the FIFA World Cup 2030™.

April 2023

FIFA

**Women's International Match
Calendar 2023-2025**

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL MATCH CALENDAR 2023-2025



FIXED DATES FOR INTERNATIONAL "A" MATCHES

Year	Dates	Match details/window type ¹	Max. number of matches
2023	January		-
	13-22 February	Type II (available for all confederations)	3
	or 13-23 February	Play-Off Tournament for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™ (exclusively for the participating teams)	2
	March		-
	3-11 April	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	May		-
	10-18 July	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	20 July - 20 August	FIFA Women's World Cup™	
	18-26 September	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	23-31 October	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	or 23 October - 1 November	Type II (only available for AFC & OFC)	3
	27 November - 5 December	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	or 27 November - 6 December	Type II (available for all confederations except UEFA)	3

¹ **Type I:** release of players to national associations: Monday to Tuesday night (following week).

Type II: release of players to national associations: Monday to Wednesday night (following week).

Type III: release of players to national associations: Monday to Saturday night (following week).

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2024	January		
	20 February – 10 March	2024 Concacaf W Gold Cup	
	5 February – 10 March	BLOCKED PERIOD Final round of OFC qualification tournament for the Olympic Football Tournaments (release period of 16 days in total)	
	19-28 February	Type II (available for all confederations)	3
	March		
	1-9 April	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	27 May – 4 June	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	8-16 July	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	25 July – 10 August	Women's Olympic Football Tournament	
	September		
	21-29 October	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	or 21-30 October	Type II (available for all confederations except UEFA)	3
	25 November – 3 December	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	or 25 November – 7 December	Type III (only available for AFC)	4

Year	Dates	Match details/window type	Max. number of matches
2025	January		-
	17-26 February	Type II (available for all confederations)	3
	31 March – 8 April	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	26 May – 3 June	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	June/July ²	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	June/July ²	Type II (available for all confederations except UEFA)	3
	June/July ²	Type III (only available for AFC)	4
	23 June – 3 August	BLOCKED PERIOD Final competitions for the CONMEBOL and UEFA championships (including release period)	
	September		-
	20-28 October	Type I (available for all confederations)	2
	or 20-29 October	Type II (available for all confederations except UEFA)	3
	24 November – 2 December	Type I (available for all confederations)	2

² Start of the international window to be aligned with the start of the release period for the 2025 UEFA Women's EURO and CONMEBOL Copa América Femenina.

**ANNEX 3
UEFA CLUB COMPETITIONS CYCLE 2024-27
FORMAT & ACCESS**



No 36/2023

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference F/CC/THT/ANS	Date 7 July 2023
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UEFA club competitions cycle 2024–27 (“Post 2024”)

Dear Sir or Madam,

Following the approval of the UEFA Executive Committee on 10 May 2022 and on 28 June 2023, as well as the approval of the men’s international match calendar for 2025-2030 by the FIFA Council on 14 March 2023, please find hereunder and attached further detailed information on the men’s UEFA club competitions for the cycle 2024–27.

On 19 April 2021, the UEFA Executive Committee approved the principles of access, format and calendar for the new UEFA club competitions from the 2024-25 season onwards.

Following an intensive consultation process with all stakeholders, which led to some amendments and fine-tuning, at its meeting on 10 May 2022 the UEFA Executive Committee finalised and approved the new structure of the UEFA Champions League (UCL), the UEFA Europa League (UEL) and the UEFA Europa Conference League (UECL), with regards to access, format and calendar.

Furthermore, the UEFA Executive Committee approved at its meeting on 28 June 2023 the new format, access and calendar of the UEFA Youth League (UYL) from the 2024-25 season onwards.

For 2024–27, the key changes are the following:

- Reformatting the UCL, UEL and UECL group stages to a ‘league phase concept’;
- Increasing the number of clubs taking part in the UCL, UEL and UECL centralised phases;
- Changing the number of league phase matchdays (current group stage) for the UCL and UEL;
- Creating an intermediate knockout round play-off in the UCL between the league phase and the round of 16;
- Opening the access in the UYL in the domestic champions path to all national associations and adapting the format of the UYL Champions League path in accordance with the format changes in the UCL.

Finally, the UEFA Executive Committee decided to rename the UEFA Europa Conference League into **UEFA Conference League**, in a move that will strengthen the personality and identity of this new but already important competition. The change of name will be implemented **as of the start of the 2024/25 season**.

You will find below a more detailed explanation of the new framework. Furthermore, attached to this circular letter you will find an illustrated overview to further explain the changes.

1. UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa League, and UEFA Europa Conference League

Access:

The access list and the feeding principles in the qualifying rounds for UCL, UEL and UECL does not change. However, four clubs will be added to the current 32 clubs in each of the group stages (league phases in the new format) of the three competitions based on the outline below (full details of the new access list for all three competitions are enclosed). The new structure for UEFA club competitions will ensure that a minimum of **37 UEFA national associations** are represented in the league phases of the three competitions combined. There will be a minimum of 15 domestic champions in the UCL league phase and a further 22 in the UEL or UECL league phase.

Since all changes made to the access list will enter into force in the 2024/25 season, the outcome of the 2023/24 domestic season (or 2023 for summer leagues) will be taken into account. The ranking of the associations in the 2024/25 access list are determined on the basis of the five-season association coefficients established at the end of the 2022/23 season, i.e. the cumulative total of the associations' season coefficients from 2018/19 to 2022/23 inclusive.

UEFA Champions League

Based on the UCL access list for the 2021-24 cycle, four additional spots will be allocated as follows for a league phase composition with 36 clubs (see full details in the enclosure):

- One additional spot for direct qualification to the league phase will be allocated to the **association in the fifth position** of the access list in accordance with the UEFA associations' club coefficient ranking. This association will also keep its spot in the qualifying phase (third qualifying round of the league path) of the competition.
- One additional spot in the league phase will be awarded to a domestic champion by extending from **four to five the number of clubs qualifying via the champions path qualifying rounds**. The champions path will be adapted as detailed in the access list, including, notably, the removal of the preliminary round (see enclosure).
- One additional league phase spot each will be reserved for the **two associations whose affiliated clubs have the best collective performance in the previous season** in the UEFA club competitions (in accordance with the associations' club coefficient for the season). This spot ("European Performance Spot") will be allocated to the club best ranked in their domestic league behind the clubs that have qualified directly for the UCL league phase positions. The additional spot will not reduce the number of clubs in UEL and UECL, so these two associations will be entitled to one team more each in their overall UEFA club competitions quota.

UEFA Europa League

More associations and clubs will be involved in the qualification path. The four additional spots will result in the following league phase composition, with 36 clubs (see full details in the enclosure):

- The UECL titleholder
- Twelve clubs (**one more** than in the 2021–24 cycle) **qualifying directly** via their domestic competitions:
 - o two from each association ranked 1 to 5 in the UEFA associations club coefficient ranking;
 - o one from each association ranked 6 and 7 in the UEFA associations club coefficient ranking.
- Five clubs (**one more** than in the 2021–24 cycle) entering from the **UCL play-offs of the champions path**.
- Six clubs (same as in the 2021–24 cycle) entering either from the UCL play-offs or UCL third qualifying round of the league path.
- Twelve clubs (**two more** than in the 2021–24 cycle) from the **UEL qualification phase**, which will include two additional rounds (first qualifying round and second qualifying round of the main path) and 24 more clubs from 18 additional associations.
 - o The clubs losing in UCL champions path second qualifying round will enter Q3 of the UEL champions path, the clubs losing in UCL champions path third qualifying round will enter the UEL play-offs;
 - o The clubs losing in UCL league path second qualifying round will enter Q3 of the UEL main path.

UEFA Europa Conference League

The four additional spots will result in the following league phase composition, with 36 clubs (see full details in the enclosure):

- Twelve clubs (**two more** than in the 2021–24 cycle) entering from the **UEL play-offs**.
- Five clubs (same as in the 2021–24 cycle) from the UECL champions path, reserved for clubs eliminated in the UCL champions path Q1 (16 clubs entering in Q2 of the UECL champions path) and clubs eliminated in the UEL champions path Q3 (six clubs entering in PO of the UECL champions path).
- Nineteen clubs (**two more** than in the 2021–24 cycle) from the **UECL main path qualifying rounds**, which still consist of four rounds and include clubs from all 55 associations.
 - o The clubs losing in UEL main path first qualifying round will enter in Q2 of the UECL main path, the clubs losing in UEL main path second qualifying round will enter in Q3 of the UECL main path and the clubs losing in UEL main path third qualifying round will enter in the UECL main path play-offs.

Titleholder rebalancing

The rebalancing of the UCL, UEL and UECL titleholders (if the titleholders qualify for the respective league phases via their domestic competitions) will be as follows:

- If the UCL titleholder qualifies for the UCL league phase via the domestic league, the **club with the best individual club coefficient of all clubs that have qualified for the UCL champions path** (champions of associations 11 to 55) will enter the UCL league phase directly instead of the original round they qualified for.
- If the UEL titleholder qualifies for the UCL league phase via the domestic league, the **club with the best individual club coefficient of all clubs that have qualified for the UCL champions path** (champions of associations 11 to 55) **and the UCL league path** (clubs of associations 5 to 15) will enter the UCL league phase directly instead of the original round they qualified for (**provided they are the next best club in their domestic championship not already qualified for the UCL league phase**).
- If the UECL titleholder qualifies for the UEL league phase via the domestic competitions, the **club with the best individual club coefficient of all clubs that have qualified for the qualification phase of the UEL** will enter the UEL league phase directly (**provided they are the next best club in their domestic championship not already qualified for the UEL league phase**).

Format

From the 2024/25 season, the group phase will be replaced by a **league phase with 36 clubs**. Clubs will no longer play three opponents twice – home and away – but will instead face fixtures against **eight different clubs in UCL and UEL**, and **six different clubs in UECL**. Half of each club's matches will be played at home and half of them away.

The new format is expected to provide greater sporting fairness for all clubs, a more dynamic ranking, wider diversity of opponents and a greater level of sporting interest until the last matchday.

The principles of the new league phase will be as follows (see more details in the enclosure):

- Clubs are no longer drawn in groups.
- All clubs start the competition together in one league and play against a selected number of opponents equal to the number of matchdays. All results are counted in one ranking: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, 0 point for a loss.
- Each club plays an equal number of matches at home and away.

The opponents, and which matches will be played home and which away, will be assigned by a draw, based on a system of pots, to ensure all participants have the most balanced level of opposition.

UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League

- o Each club will play eight opponents.
- o The 36 clubs will be seeded into four pots of nine clubs based on their individual club coefficient established at the beginning of the season (five-season coefficient, including the previous season). The first pot in UCL includes the UCL titleholder and the top eight clubs in the club coefficient ranking, in UEL the first pot includes the top nine ranked clubs. Pots 2, 3 and 4 include all other clubs according to their ranking order.
- o Each club will be drawn against two opponents from each of the four pots, playing one match at home and one match away against them.

UEFA Europa Conference League

- o Each club will play six opponents.
 - o The 36 clubs will be seeded into six pots of six clubs based on their individual club coefficient established at the beginning of the season. The first pot comprises the top six clubs in the club coefficient ranking and pots 2 to 6 all other clubs according to their ranking order.
 - o Each club will be drawn against one opponent from each of the six pots.
 - o The six pots will be paired (pots 1 & 2, pots 3 & 4 and pots 5 & 6). Each club will play one opponent at home and the other opponent away of each of the two paired pots.
- In principle, clubs from the same association will not be drawn against each other in the league phase. Exceptionally, a maximum of one match per club against another club from the same association may be allowed for associations with four or more clubs in the league phase, if this is the only way to avoid a deadlock in the draw.
- At the end of the league phase, in each of the competitions the clubs ranked 1 to 8 will qualify directly for the round of 16. Clubs ranked 9 to 16 will face clubs ranked 17 to 24 in a knockout round play-off, to qualify for the round of 16. Clubs ranked 25 and lower will be eliminated from all UEFA club competitions (i.e. no feeding to another competition). To strengthen the synergy between league and knock-out phases and to provide more sporting incentives to the league phase, the **pairings of the knock-out phase will be partly determined by the league phase ranking**. The following seeding system will apply:
- o For the knockout round play-offs, clubs that finish 9th to 16th in the league phase will be seeded and those that finish 17th to 24th will be unseeded. The seeded clubs will in principle play the second leg at home.
 - o For the round of 16, clubs that finish 1st to 8th in the league phase will be seeded and will play against the winners of the knockout round play-offs, who will be unseeded. The seeded clubs will in principle play the second leg at home.
 - o A table will be formed that will guide the pairings of the knock-out phase from the knock-out round play-offs up to the semi-finals. Clubs ranked 1 to 8 will be coupled based on their position in the league phase and split in two opposite parts of the table by draw, for example, clubs ranked 1 and 2, clubs ranked 3 and 4 and so on. An example of a seeding table of the knockout phase system for illustration purposes is shown in the enclosure.

- From the knockout round play-off, there will be no more country protection, so clubs may face other clubs from the same country.
- The knockout phase will be completed with two-legged quarter-finals and semi-finals, with the final then played in a single leg at a neutral venue.

Calendar and kick-off times:

The three competitions will consist of the following rounds and matchdays:

- UEFA Champions League
 - o League phase: 8 matchdays (4 home and 4 away)
 - o Knockout round play-offs: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Round of 16: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Quarter-finals: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Semi-finals: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Final: 1 matchday
- UEFA Europa League
 - o League phase: 8 matchdays (4 home and 4 away)
 - o Knockout round play-offs: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Round of 16: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Quarter-finals: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Semi-finals: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Final: 1 matchday
- UEFA Europa Conference League
 - o League phase: 6 matchdays (3 home and 3 away)
 - o Knockout round play-offs: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Round of 16: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Quarter-finals: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Semi-finals: 2 matchdays (home and away)
 - o Final: 1 matchday
- The qualifying rounds dates will follow the calendar pattern of the cycle 2021-24 as of Q1 (no more UCL preliminary round).
- The eight league phase matchdays of the UCL and the UEL and the six league phase matchdays of the UECL will be played over **ten European match-weeks**. The UCL and UEL matches will be played **between September and January**, while the UECL matches will be played **between September and December**. Each of the three UEFA club competitions will have **one exclusive matchweek** with the other two competitions not being scheduled in this week.
- In standard weeks, UCL matches will be played on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and UEL and UECL matches on Thursdays. In the UCL exclusive week, UCL matches will be played on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. In the UEL exclusive week, UEL matches will be played on Wednesday and Thursday. In the UECL exclusive week, UECL matches will be played on Thursday.
- The finals will be held on Saturday for UCL and on Wednesday for UEL and UECL.

-
- There will be two kick-off time slots on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 18:45 CET and 21:00 CET. An additional slot at 16:30 CET may be used for UEL and UECL matches in time-zones CET+2 and higher. For the last match day of each of the league phase, all matches will be played simultaneously. As of the quarter-finals in UCL and as of the semi-finals in UEL and UECL, in principle all matches are played at 21:00 CET.
 - The calendar for the 2024/25 season is enclosed.

2. UEFA Youth League

Access:

As the competition structure is initially split in two parts, access to the UEFA Champions League (UCL) path will be granted to all clubs participating in the UCL. Access to the Domestic Champions (DCH) path has been **extended to** domestic youth champions from **all UEFA national associations** (having at least a national youth championship between the ages of U17-U19).

The clubs will enter the DCH path either in the first or second round according to the ranking of their association in the UEFA men's club competitions access list. The final access list will be defined at the beginning of every season once the final number of participants and the titleholder are known.

The relevant domestic youth championship (i.e. U17, U18 or U19) giving access to the UEFA Youth League is defined by the national association and validated by UEFA. This age category needs to be confirmed for the entire 2024-27 cycle and therefore needs to be the same for the 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27 season.

If a club qualifies for both the UCL path and the DCH path, it automatically participates in the UCL path and the vacancy in the DCH path is filled by the runner-up of the same association. No further replacement is possible if the runner-up is also qualified for the UCL path or not available. In this case the access list will be rebalanced accordingly.

The UYL titleholder has a guaranteed spot in the DCH path (Round 2) if it does not qualify for the competition, either as a club participating in the UCL path or in the DCH path. If the UYL titleholder is already qualified to the competition the access list will be rebalanced accordingly.

Since all changes made to the access list will enter into force in the 2024/25 season, the outcome of the 2023/24 domestic season (or 2023 for summer leagues) will be taken into account.

Format:

In phase one the competition is split into the UCL path and the DCH path, while in phase two the two paths are combined together into the knock-out stages.

Phase One:

UCL path

- Adopting the same format as in the UCL, the group stage will be replaced by a single league phase of 36. The UCL path will replicate the UCL league phase but limited to matchdays 1 to 6 (three matches at home and three away).
- At the end of the league phase, the clubs ranked 1 to 22 in the UYL league phase ranking qualify for the round of 32. The clubs ranked 23 and lower are eliminated from the competition.

DCH path

- The DCH path will consist of three rounds played under the cup (knock-out) system with two-legged ties (home and away matches). Each rounds' pairings are determined by means of an open draw.
- The access to the three rounds will be defined once the final number of entries and the titleholder are known. For example, with 54 domestic champions, the rounds would be set-up as follows:
 - o Round 1 features 30 clubs of which 15 qualify to round 2:
 - the domestic champions of the associations ranked from 25 onwards.
 - o Round 2 features 40 clubs of which 20 qualify to round 3:
 - the UYL titleholder,
 - the domestic champions of the associations ranked 1 to 24,
 - the 15 winning clubs from round 1.
 - o Round 3 features 20 clubs of which 10 qualify to the Round of 32 in phase two:
 - the 20 winning clubs from round 2.

Phase Two:

The knockout stage will consist of a round of 32, a round of 16, quarter-finals, semi-finals and a final. All knockout stage matches will be played as single-leg matches.

Round of 32

- The clubs ranked 1 to 6 in the UCL path league ranking will play against the clubs ranked 17 to 22 in the UCL path league ranking. The clubs ranked 1 to 6 in the UCL path will be seeded and play at home.
- The clubs ranked 7 to 16 in the UCL path league ranking will play against the 10 clubs qualifying from the DCH-path. The 10 clubs from the DCH-path will be seeded and play at home.
- The pairings will be determined by means of a draw and clubs from the same association cannot be drawn against each other.

Round of 16 and quarter-finals

- For the round of 16 and the quarter-finals, the pairings will be determined by means of an open draw. The draw will also determine which teams will play at home.

Semi-finals and final

- The semi-finals and final will take place during a 'final four' event at a neutral venue. The pairings will be determined by means of an open draw.

Calendar:

Phase one will be played between September and December (in principle over six UCL matchweeks).

Phase two will be played between February and April.

In principle, UCL path matches will be played on Tuesdays or Wednesdays (and Thursday in the UCL exclusive match week), on the same day as the respective clubs' UEFA Champions League teams. DCH path matches will, in principle, be played on Wednesdays.

A draft calendar for the 2024/25 season is enclosed.

In any case, the final and definitive version of all details regarding the new club competitions including the new format, the access and the calendar will be outlined in the respective competition regulations for the respective season of the cycle 2024-27 (i.e. seasons 2024/25, 2025/26, 2026/27 respectively), which prevails, in case of any discrepancies.

For more detailed information and a visual representation of the above information, please refer to the enclosure. Should you have any questions regarding these changes or require any clarification, please feel free to contact the Club Competitions or Competitions Strategic Development unit.

Yours faithfully,

U E F A



Theodore Theodoridis
General Secretary

Enclosures

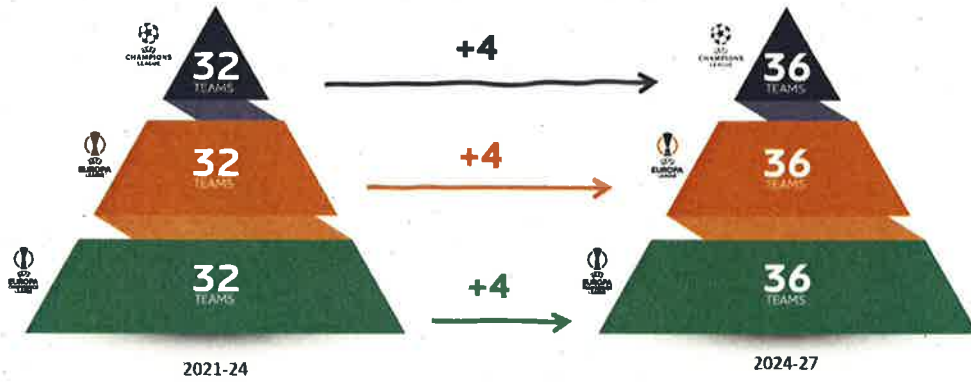
- Overview of changes for 2024–27 cycle of UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa League and UEFA Europa Conference League (enclosure 1)
- Overview of changes for 2024–27 cycle of UEFA Youth League (enclosure 2)

cc (with enclosures)

- UEFA Executive Committee
- UEFA Club Competitions Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- FIFA, Zurich
- European Club Association
- European Leagues



ACCESS TO UCL - UEL - UECL



UCL ACCESS – 36 TEAMS



UEL ACCESS – 36 TEAMS



UECL ACCESS – 36 TEAMS



UEFA Champions League			UEFA Europa League			UEFA Europa Conference League		
Round	Date	Match	Round	Date	Match	Round	Date	Match
1	Aug 29		1	Aug 29		1	Aug 29	
2	Aug 30		2	Aug 30		2	Aug 30	
3	Aug 31		3	Aug 31		3	Aug 31	
4	Aug 31		4	Aug 31		4	Aug 31	
5	Aug 31		5	Aug 31		5	Aug 31	
6	Aug 31		6	Aug 31		6	Aug 31	
7	Aug 31		7	Aug 31		7	Aug 31	
8	Aug 31		8	Aug 31		8	Aug 31	
9	Aug 31		9	Aug 31		9	Aug 31	
10	Aug 31		10	Aug 31		10	Aug 31	
11	Aug 31		11	Aug 31		11	Aug 31	
12	Aug 31		12	Aug 31		12	Aug 31	
13	Aug 31		13	Aug 31		13	Aug 31	
14	Aug 31		14	Aug 31		14	Aug 31	
15	Aug 31		15	Aug 31		15	Aug 31	
16	Aug 31		16	Aug 31		16	Aug 31	
17	Aug 31		17	Aug 31		17	Aug 31	
18	Aug 31		18	Aug 31		18	Aug 31	
19	Aug 31		19	Aug 31		19	Aug 31	
20	Aug 31		20	Aug 31		20	Aug 31	
21	Aug 31		21	Aug 31		21	Aug 31	
22	Aug 31		22	Aug 31		22	Aug 31	
23	Aug 31		23	Aug 31		23	Aug 31	
24	Aug 31		24	Aug 31		24	Aug 31	
25	Aug 31		25	Aug 31		25	Aug 31	
26	Aug 31		26	Aug 31		26	Aug 31	
27	Aug 31		27	Aug 31		27	Aug 31	
28	Aug 31		28	Aug 31		28	Aug 31	
29	Aug 31		29	Aug 31		29	Aug 31	
30	Aug 31		30	Aug 31		30	Aug 31	
31	Aug 31		31	Aug 31		31	Aug 31	
32	Aug 31		32	Aug 31		32	Aug 31	
33	Aug 31		33	Aug 31		33	Aug 31	
34	Aug 31		34	Aug 31		34	Aug 31	
35	Aug 31		35	Aug 31		35	Aug 31	
36	Aug 31		36	Aug 31		36	Aug 31	
37	Aug 31		37	Aug 31		37	Aug 31	
38	Aug 31		38	Aug 31		38	Aug 31	
39	Aug 31		39	Aug 31		39	Aug 31	
40	Aug 31		40	Aug 31		40	Aug 31	
41	Aug 31		41	Aug 31		41	Aug 31	
42	Aug 31		42	Aug 31		42	Aug 31	
43	Aug 31		43	Aug 31		43	Aug 31	
44	Aug 31		44	Aug 31		44	Aug 31	
45	Aug 31		45	Aug 31		45	Aug 31	
46	Aug 31		46	Aug 31		46	Aug 31	
47	Aug 31		47	Aug 31		47	Aug 31	
48	Aug 31		48	Aug 31		48	Aug 31	
49	Aug 31		49	Aug 31		49	Aug 31	
50	Aug 31		50	Aug 31		50	Aug 31	
51	Aug 31		51	Aug 31		51	Aug 31	
52	Aug 31		52	Aug 31		52	Aug 31	
53	Aug 31		53	Aug 31		53	Aug 31	
54	Aug 31		54	Aug 31		54	Aug 31	
55	Aug 31		55	Aug 31		55	Aug 31	
56	Aug 31		56	Aug 31		56	Aug 31	
57	Aug 31		57	Aug 31		57	Aug 31	
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98	Aug 31		98	Aug 31		98	Aug 31	
99	Aug 31		99	Aug 31		99	Aug 31	
100	Aug 31		100	Aug 31		100	Aug 31	

UCL: UEFA Champions League | UEL: UEFA Europa League | UECL: UEFA Europa Conference League | TH: Titleholder | EP: European Performance Sport | CH: Champions League | DC: Domestic Championship | N1: Promoted club of domestic championship | N2: Promoted club of domestic championship | N3: Promoted club of domestic championship | N4: Promoted club of domestic championship | N5: Promoted club of domestic championship | N6: Promoted club of domestic championship | N7: Promoted club of domestic championship | N8: Promoted club of domestic championship | N9: Promoted club of domestic championship | N10: Promoted club of domestic championship

TITLEHOLDERS RE-BALANCING



If **UCL TH** is qualified for **UCL League Phase** via league



Best Individual Club Coefficient of UCL CH-path is qualified directly to the UCL League Phase



If **UEL TH** is qualified for **UCL League Phase** via league



Best Individual Club Coefficient of UCL CH-path & UCL League-path is qualified directly to the UCL League Phase

if it is the next best club in its domestic championship not already qualified to the UCL League Phase



If **UECL TH** is qualified for **UEL League Phase** via domestic competitions



Best individual Club Coefficient of UEL qualification is qualified directly to the UEL League Phase

if it is the next best club in its domestic championship not already qualified to the UEL League Phase



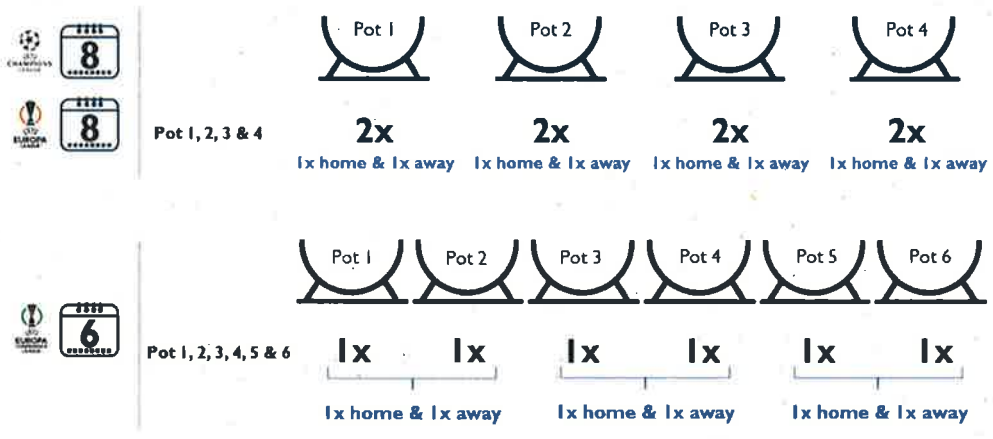
FORMAT – NEW LEAGUE CONCEPT



From a **Group Stage** concept → to a **Single League** concept



NEW LEAGUE CONCEPT - POT ALLOCATION



Single League
concept



- Direct qualification to Round of 16
- Qualification to KO Play-offs (seeded)
- Qualification to KO Play-offs (unseeded)
- Elimination (no feeding to other competition)



FORMAT – LEAGUE PHASE + KO-STAGE

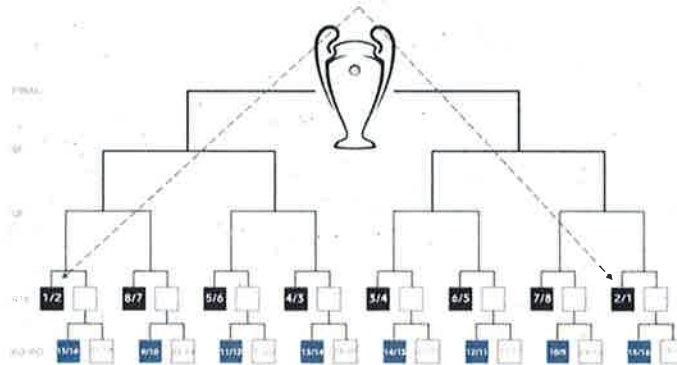


DRAW KO-STAGE



Ranking after League Phase

1	5	Draw Pair
2	6	
3	7	
4	8	
9	13	Draw Pair
10	14	
11	15	
12	16	
17	21	Draw Pair or Open
18	22	
19	23	
20	24	





CALENDAR (EXAMPLE SEASON 2024/25)



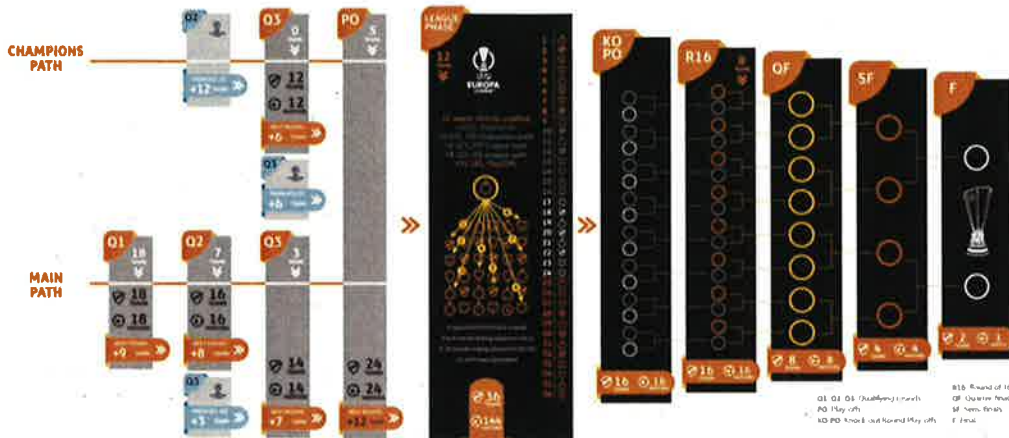
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July	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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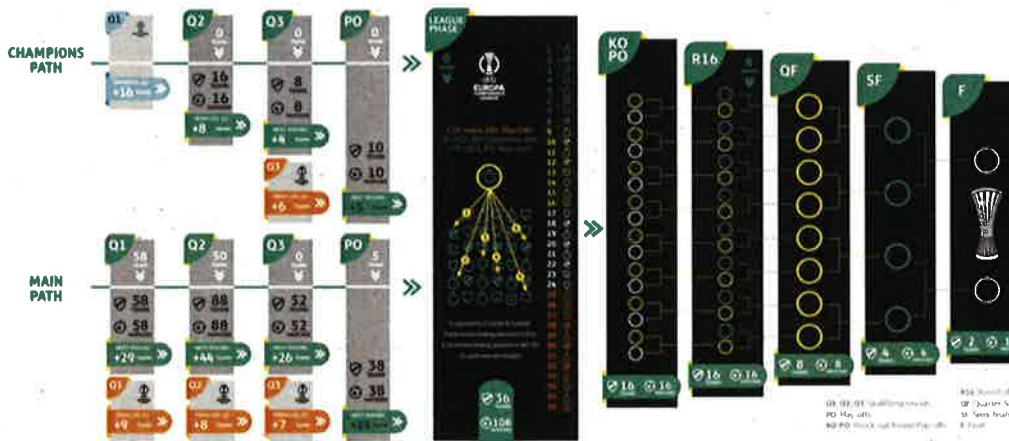
UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE



UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE

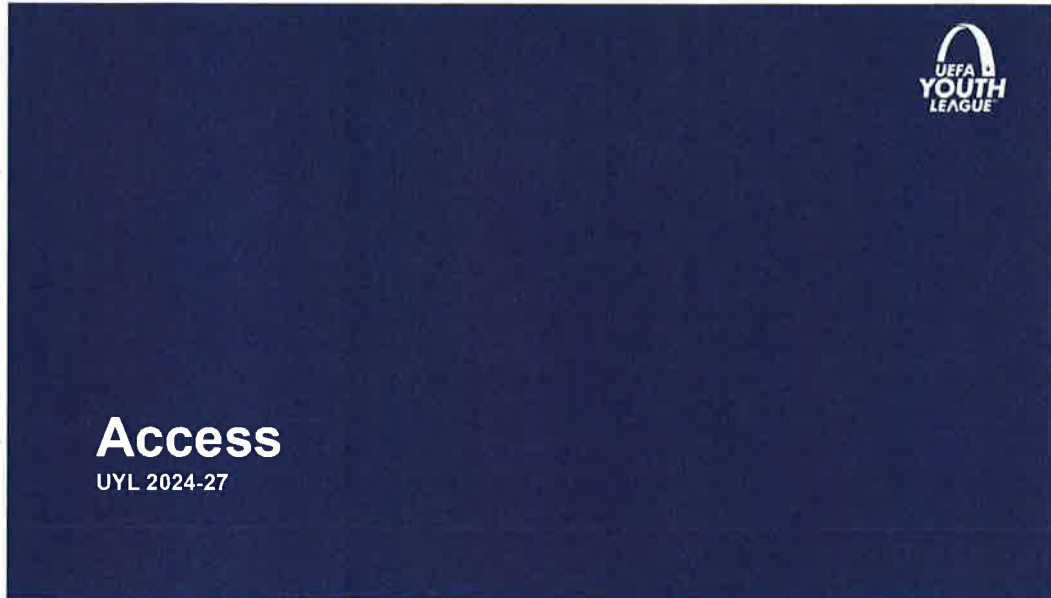


UEFA EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE





Overview of changes for 2024–27 cycle of UYL
Enclosure 2 to circular letter




Access List

Example with 54 Domestic Champions

- If a club qualifies for both the UCL path and the DCH path, it automatically participates in the UCL path
- The vacancy in the DCH path is filled by the runner-up of the same association
- No further replacement is possible if the runner-up is also qualified for the UCL path or not available. In this case the access list will be rebalanced accordingly
- If the UYL titleholder is already qualified to the competition the access list will be rebalanced accordingly

UEFA Champions League Path		UEFA Youth League Access List		Domestic Youth Champions Path	
Rank	Association	Rank	Association	Rank	Association
1	GER	1	GER	1	GER
2	ITA	2	ITA	2	ITA
3	ESP	3	ESP	3	ESP
4	ENG	4	ENG	4	ENG
5	FRA	5	FRA	5	FRA
6	POR	6	POR	6	POR
7	SCO	7	SCO	7	SCO
8	GRE	8	GRE	8	GRE
9	CZE	9	CZE	9	CZE
10	HUN	10	HUN	10	HUN
11	CRO	11	CRO	11	CRO
12	SRB	12	SRB	12	SRB
13	UKR	13	UKR	13	UKR
14	BLR	14	BLR	14	BLR
15	ARM	15	ARM	15	ARM
16	AZE	16	AZE	16	AZE
17	MDA	17	MDA	17	MDA
18	ROU	18	ROU	18	ROU
19	BUL	19	BUL	19	BUL
20	SRB	20	SRB	20	SRB
21	SRB	21	SRB	21	SRB
22	SRB	22	SRB	22	SRB
23	SRB	23	SRB	23	SRB
24	SRB	24	SRB	24	SRB
25	SRB	25	SRB	25	SRB
26	SRB	26	SRB	26	SRB
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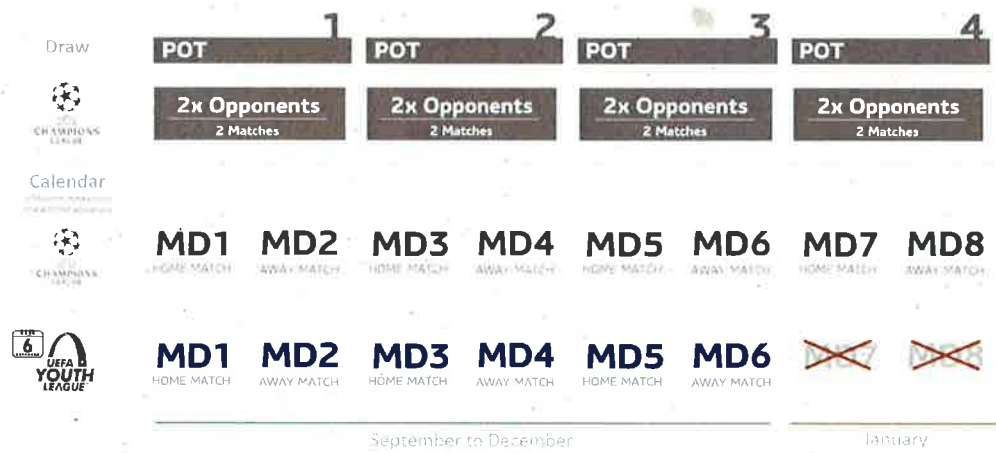


Format

UYL 2024-27

4

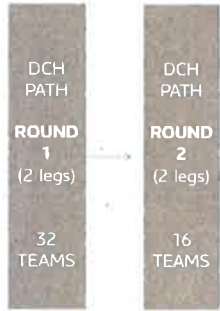
UEFA Champions League Path (From UCL to UYL)





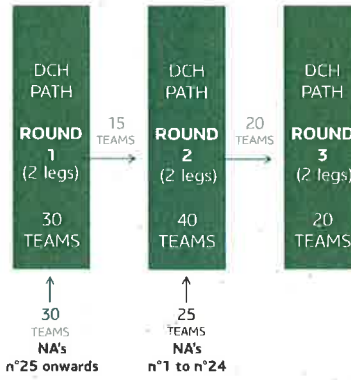
Domestic Champions path

TODAY (32 teams)



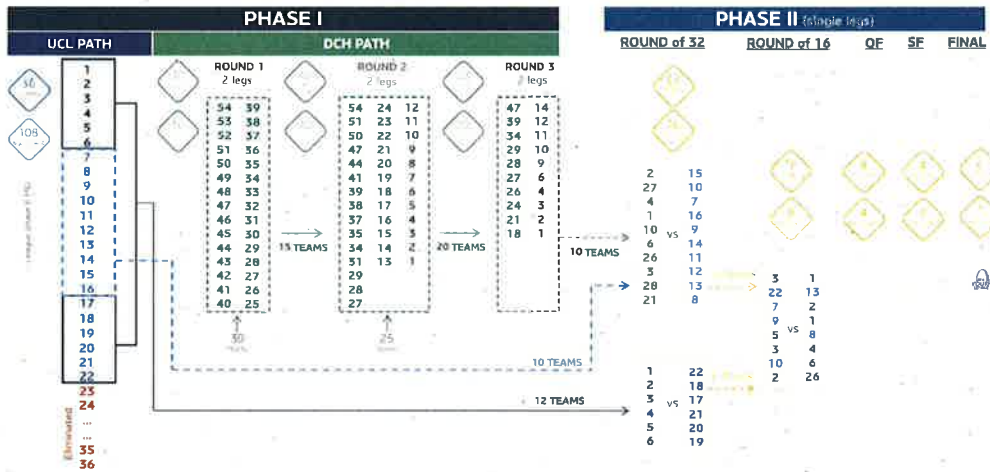
8 TEAMS
To Knock-out
Play-offs

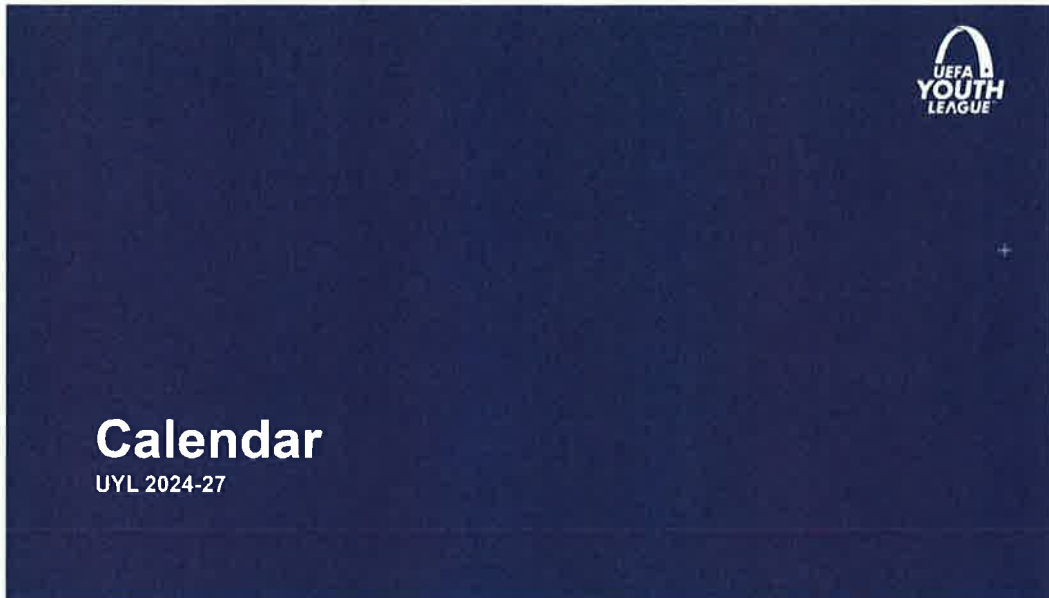
FUTURE (54 teams)



10 TEAMS
To R32

Phase 1 & Phase 2





Calendar: Example Season 2024/25



June	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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