



To the 24 national associations qualified for the  
UEFA EURO 2020 final tournament

For the attention of  
The General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference BAW/MPT	Date 20 May 2021
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## **UEFA EURO 2020 final tournament – Special COVID-19 mitigation measures for teams**

Dear Sir / Madam,

As every team has now experienced in their national team matches over the last year, the imposition of COVID-19 measures on international travel has made staging international competition matches significantly more challenging. For the upcoming UEFA EURO 2020 final tournament, which will be played in 11 different European cities, the different COVID-19 measures applied in each host country are making the preparation and logistics of this tournament extremely complex. In order to mitigate these challenges, to facilitate the travel of all participating teams throughout the different host countries, and to ensure a smooth running of the competition, several exemptions have been negotiated to the current COVID-19 restrictions in place. For those exemptions to be applicable and to ensure an as safe environment as possible for all those concerned, teams must comply with the obligations implemented in the enclosed UEFA Return to Play Protocol version 4 (the UEFA Protocol) as well as the below mentioned strict measures for the entire duration of the tournament.

### **1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

As established in the UEFA Protocol, it is the responsibility of the Protocol Compliance Officer (PCO), who must travel with the team at all times (including to every match stadium), to ensure that all obligations as set out in the UEFA Protocol (specifically with regards to stadium and Zoning access) are respected at all times.

Additionally, it is the responsibility of the PCO to ensure that any further requirements applicable in the relevant country of the teams' stay during the EURO 2020 final tournament (e.g. specific rules to be respected in the relevant team hotel) are strictly adhered to by all members of the team delegation.

In this regard, we would once again like to point out that any non-compliance with the rules set out in the UEFA Protocol may lead to disciplinary measures in accordance with the UEFA Disciplinary Regulations, hinder your team and endanger the regular staging of the tournament.

Any team not respecting either the provisions of the UEFA Protocol, or the specific measures mentioned in this letter, may risk not being able to benefit from the negotiated exemptions in one of the host cities/countries of the EURO 2020 final tournament. Depending on the relevant authorities' decision, this might lead to additional testing at short notice or to teams having to be quarantined in one of the host cities/countries.



## **2. TEAM BUBBLE – TO - BUBBLE CONCEPT**

The team bubble-to-bubble concept aims at creating a protected and contained environment for the players and technical staff for their entire tournament journey and is a pre-condition for the majority of the COVID-19 measure exemptions that have been negotiated with the host cities/countries. During the UEFA EURO 2020 final tournament, starting at the latest from MD-5 of the team's first match, the team delegation must avoid any contact with any person outside of their bubble in order to minimise the risk of contagion to the extent possible. This applies at the team's base camp, transfer hotels, training centres, stadiums, as well as during any transfers from one location to another. Given the incubation window of the virus, we warn the teams against breaking their bubbles even before the fifth day preceding their first match.

### **2.1. TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS**

All teams are required to travel solely by charter flight and/or by private buses. In case of travel by train, the teams are required to travel in a separate privatised wagon. No media representatives, guests, sponsors, partners, family members or any other third party are therefore permitted to be travelling with the team delegation.

Additionally, it is strongly recommended for teams to keep social distancing, to use set seating patterns for all bus/train/plane journeys and to wear masks at all times during the travel.

#### **2.1.1. Advanced team delegation travel**

It is strongly recommended to not have any advanced team delegation members, travelling by commercial flight, re-joining the team bubble. If teams do insist on sending advance teams before the main team delegation, then it is considered significantly safer to keep these persons outside of the team bubble once the main team delegation arrives onsite. However, in case there is an urgent need for a member of such an advance team to re-join the team bubble, this individual must, prior to any interaction with the members of the team bubble, provide a negative PCR-test (issued by the UEFA Testing Service Provider at the team's expense) taken onsite.

Teams are reminded nonetheless that a negative PCR test does not completely remove all risk if these persons are reintegrated into the team bubble. If any positive case arises within the team bubble, the above-mentioned practice may be considered as "high-risk" behaviour by the relevant authorities (see point 3 below).

Additionally, please be informed that members traveling by commercial flight outside of the team bubble do not benefit from any of the above-mentioned negotiated travel exemptions. For these individuals, any general conditions to enter the relevant country (e.g. test upon arrival, mandatory quarantine etc) will be applicable. For further information and assistance on the existing travel conditions please contact UEFA team services ([teamservices@euro2020.com](mailto:teamservices@euro2020.com)).

### 2.1.2. Team executives

Due to the specific international format and length of the EURO 2020 final tournament, we understand that, contrary to normal recommended practices, team executives will not necessarily travel together with and stay in the team bubble for the duration of the entire EURO 2020 final tournament. In these cases, for the safety of the team bubble, it is strongly recommended for all team executives to nonetheless follow a regular testing programme similarly to the one established in the UEFA Protocol for the team delegation. The testing regime is required to ensure team executives may travel safely together with the team and benefit from the entry requirement exemptions negotiated for the team delegations. However, for the security of the team bubble it is strongly recommended to maintain a strict distancing between the executives and the team bubble such as on any team flights, in team hotels, etc.

In case an executive member wishes to join the team bubble, the following measures must be respected:

- If already in the same country as the team delegation, the executive(s) must provide a negative PCR-test (by the UEFA Testing Service Provider at the team's expense) not older than 48 hours;
- If travelling from abroad, the executive(s) must provide a negative PCR-test (by the UEFA Testing Service Provider at the team's expense) before their international travel to join the team bubble, in line with the UEFA Protocol and the entry requirements of the country in question, subject to the following conditions:
  - o if the executive(s) travel by private means (e.g. private plane, private car, etc), they may re-join the team bubble, if they have not been in contact with any other person outside of the team bubble. They will also benefit from any entry or quarantine requirement exemptions negotiated for the team delegations;
  - o if the executive(s) travel commercially, they must provide an additional negative PCR-test (by the UEFA Testing Service Provider at the team's expense) once in the same country as the team delegation, before joining the team bubble. For any commercial international travel, the executive(s) will not benefit from any of the negotiated travel exemptions, and any general conditions to enter the relevant country (e.g. test upon arrival, mandatory quarantine etc) will be applicable.

Similarly to the advanced team delegation, the above-mentioned practice of reintegrating a team executive into the team bubble may be considered as "high-risk" behaviour by the relevant authorities (see point 3 below), despite a negative PCR test.

### 2.1.3. Team excursions

During the UEFA EURO 2020 final tournament, teams may organise excursions provided all members are strictly adhering to the necessary hygiene measures. Such measures must include, but are not be limited to:

- standard EURO 2020 transport arrangements (i.e. use of the two UEFA buses and/or other UEFA provided private team fleet vehicles);
- the use of necessary masks by all team delegation members;
- privatised rooms for any indoor activities;
- appropriate security measures in place in order to ensure no contact with general public;
- maintain detailed documentation for potential contact tracing throughout the whole duration of the excursion.

UEFA team services ([teamservices@euro2020.com](mailto:teamservices@euro2020.com)) must be informed of the details of such planned excursion at least 48 hours in advance of the activity in question.

### 3. CONTACT TRACING PRINCIPLES


In case one or more members of a team delegation returns a positive test result during the course of the tournament, the team may be required to provide the relevant authorities with any documentation of the team's movement and behaviour during the last 48 hours. Therefore, as already established in the UEFA Protocol (see section 8 thereof), it is of utmost importance for every team to implement a rigorous contact tracing programme for the entire team delegation by keeping careful note (e.g. via photo records) of interactions between persons in the group such as when seated on planes/buses, mealtimes, training activities, etc., in order to minimise the impact on the team delegation to the extent possible.

Any behaviour that is considered to compromise the team bubble (e.g. not maintaining proper physical distancing, not being able to provide detailed documentation of seating patterns or use of masks, any interactions with persons who have been out of the team bubble) may be considered as "high risk" within the contact tracing evaluation. If authorities become aware of any such "high risk" behaviours during any contact tracing evaluation, this may result in a wider number of people being considered as "close contacts" to a positive case and, as a result, having to quarantine.

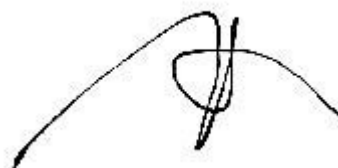
The UEFA EURO 2020 final tournament represents a significant challenge for all of us and we rely on the participating teams to comply with and implement all necessary measures and best practice behaviour to help ensure that we deliver a safe and successful event for our global audience.

Yours faithfully,

UEFA

A blue ink signature of Lance Kelly, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Lance Kelly  
Chief of Men's Football & Deputy Director

A black ink signature of Zoran Bahtijarevic, featuring a large, sweeping arch over a circular loop.

Zoran Bahtijarevic  
EURO 2020 Chief Medical Officer

Enclosure:

- UEFA Return to Play Protocol version 4

Cc:

- Team managers