



No. 33/2019

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of  
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference	Date
		GS/rig/bon	31 May 2019

### **UEFA Disciplinary Regulations, 2019 edition**

Dear Sir or Madam,

At its meeting in Baku on 29 May 2019, the UEFA Executive Committee approved the new UEFA Disciplinary Regulations (2019 edition) [DR], which will replace the 2017 edition and come into force on 15 June 2019.

The amendments are designed to introduce new elements (let. A below), increase legal certainty and predictability (i.e. clarity, consistency, transparency and accuracy) (let. B below), and introduce further, cosmetic corrections (let. C below).

#### **A. New elements**

- 1) Addition of the possibility for clubs and associations to invite children up to the age of 14 from schools or football academies for matches to be played behind closed doors. → *Article 73(h)* [NB: This possibility is also applicable by analogy in case of a partial stadium closure]
- 2) Possibility for the disciplinary bodies to take account of the immediate reaction by national associations or clubs as a mitigating circumstance in cases of pitch invasion, i.e. not only, as under the current rules, in cases of provocative messages. → *Article 23(3)*
- 3) New rule on what happens if an ethics and disciplinary inspector (EDI) position becomes vacant (i.e. same solution as in Article 28(3) DR for the CEDB and AB) and possibility for the Executive Committee to increase the number of EDIs during terms. → *Article 31(1)*
- 4) Regardless of the nature of the proceedings, obligation for the CEDB/AB members to sign an undertaking to exercise their functions independently. → *Article 32(2)*
- 5) Creation of an explicit link between the UEFA Safety and Security Regulations and the DR with the consequence that breaches of the UEFA Safety and Security Regulations will no longer be subject to strict liability. → *Article 16(1)*

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- 6) Non-application of the strict liability principle when harmless items are thrown with no danger for anyone and with no impact on the match. → *Article 16(2)*
  - 7) Amendments to Articles 15(4) and 67(1) to take account of the new possibility for a yellow or a red card to be shown by the referee against a team official, as in the latest amendments to the *IFAB Laws of the Game (LoG) 2019/20 no. 5*. → *Articles 15(4) and 67(1)*
  - 8) For the sake of completeness, addition of fraud to the provisions regarding bribery and corruption. → *Articles 10(2), 11(2)(a), 25(1)(b), 26(1)(d), 53(3) and 72(2)*

## **B. Legal certainty and predictability**

- 1) No possibility for the forfeit of a match to be suspended in line with CAS 2014/A/3703 (*Legia Warszawa v UEFA*, pt. 108: "*Although [...] this provision [i.e. Article 26(1)] of the UEFA DR determines that '[a]ll disciplinary measures may be suspended', the Panel finds that it is not appropriate to suspend a sanction to declare a match lost by forfeit*"). → *Article 26(1)(e)*
- 2) Alignment of the wording of Article 26(3) with Article 25(1) DR to reflect CAS 2017/A/5299 *Olympique Lyonnais v UEFA*, which under pt. 146 referred twice to the lack of legal certainty in the UEFA DR on this point and, as a result, decided to reduce the probationary period in the case at hand from two years to 15 months. → *Article 26(3)*
- 3) Inclusion of a disclaimer with respect to the responsibility for the services/advice provided by the UEFA pro bono counsels and specification of where to find the conditions for receiving legal aid from UEFA. → *Articles 39(3) and 39(6)*
- 4) Introduction of a time limit of seven days for the parties to request a redacted version of the decision. → *Article 52(5)*
- 5) Explicit mention of the prohibition to file further written submissions or produce evidence after the expiry of the time limit to reply to an appeal → *Article 63(1)*
- 6) More flexibility for the EDIs when deciding whether or not to reply to the appeal. → *Article 63(2)*
- 7) Clarification regarding the enforcement of suspensions that have not been served before the end of the competition, i.e. when there is no specific provision in this regard in the relevant competition regulations. → *Articles 68(3), 68(4)(d), 68(4)(e) and 68(5)*
- 8) Alignment of UEFA ethical provisions with the *FIFA Code of Ethics*. → *Articles 18(2), 20, 21(1) and 21(2)*
- 9) Cases of bribery and corruption should be able to be reopened at any time in order to be in line with Article 10(2) DR. → *Article 53(3)*

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- 10) More flexibility for the EDIs when proposing disciplinary measures (i.e. including disciplinary measures other than the standard measures defined in Annex A) and alignment of the wording of Article 31(3)(b) with Article 55(1)(d) DR. → *Article 31(3)(b)*
  - 11) Application to the CEDB of the rules governing the hearings and deliberations before the AB (i.e. Articles 64(2-3) and 65(1) DR), in order to fill in a *lacuna*. → *Article 59*
  - 12) Explicit mention that a protest must be declared inadmissible if not lodged by the deadline or if the protest fee is not paid by the deadline, to have the same solution as that provided for in Article 60(5) DR for the AB. → *Article 56(4)*
  - 13) Explicit mention, in the provision related to the misconduct of players and officials, of the possibility to increase suspensions in case of a serious offence, to bring this in line with the practice developed by the UEFA disciplinary bodies. → *Article 15(3)*
  - 14) Explicit mention of gender or sexual orientation in the provision relating to racism and other discriminatory conduct, to take account of a proposal from FARE. → *Article 14(1)*
  - 15) Amendment of the wording of Article 69 as a result of new Article 4 IFAB LoG, which makes it impossible to monitor whether sent -off or suspended coaches communicate indirectly with an official sitting on the bench who is allowed to have a smartphone. → *Article 69(1)*
  - 16) Addition of a new sentence to Annex A to reflect the current practice of the disciplinary bodies regarding repeat offences. → *Annex A (introductory part)*
  - 17) Reduction of the standard fines provided for in Annex A.II for the offence 'Protection of the playing area', i.e. from €8,000 to €5,000 for the first offence, and from €12,000 to €8,000 for the second offence to align these fines with those provided for in Annex A.I for the offence 'Invasion of the field of play'. → *Annex A.II*
  - 18) Increase in the standard sanction for not going straight to the doping control station, from a warning to a €5,000 fine for the first offence and from a €5,000 fine to one match suspension under probation for the second offence. → *Annex A.VI*
  - 19) Introduction of standard fines for misconduct of players and officials during the UEFA Nations League, the UEFA Under-19 Futsal Championship and the UEFA Women's Futsal Championship, and an increase in the standard fines for misconduct of players and officials during the UEFA Women's Champions League. → *Annex A.VIII (first table)*
  - 20) Clarification of the sanction for misconduct of players and officials in cases of more than one previous offence. → *Annex A.VIII (second table)*

### **C. Further cosmetic amendments**

- 1) Correction of a wrong cross-reference in Article 42(1) regarding the beginning of time limits. → *Article 42(1)*

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- 2) Addition of the word 'any' to Article 60(3) to make it clear that the parties do not necessarily have to provide witnesses. → Article 60(3)

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Angelo Rigopoulos, Managing Director of Integrity & Regulatory ([Angelo.Rigopoulos@uefa.ch](mailto:Angelo.Rigopoulos@uefa.ch)), and Jacques Bondallaz, Chief of Regulatory and Disciplinary ([Jacques.Bondallaz@uefa.ch](mailto:Jacques.Bondallaz@uefa.ch)).

Yours faithfully,

**U E F A**



Theodore Theodoridis  
General Secretary

Enclosure

- PDF version of the UEFA Disciplinary Regulations (Edition 2019)

cc

- UEFA Executive Committee
- UEFA disciplinary bodies
- UEFA Ethics and Disciplinary Inspectors
- European members of the FIFA Executive Committee
- FIFA, Zurich