



REAL FEDERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE FÚTBOL

TEMPORADA 2025/2026

## **CIRCULAR N° 58**

### **Modificaciones reglamentarias de las competiciones UEFA para la Temporada 2026/2027**

*(Circular UEFA n° 11/2026)*

Por medio de la presente, la RFEF informa a todos sus afiliados de la aprobación de las nuevas regulaciones de las competiciones de clubes UEFA para la temporada 2026/2027, conforme a lo acordado por el Comité Ejecutivo de la UEFA.

Se acompaña Circular n° 11/2026 de la UEFA, en la que dicho organismo traslada información relativa a las citadas modificaciones, junto con los documentos anexos en los que se recogen los cambios introducidos en las distintas competiciones.

Con el objetivo de facilitar la adecuada comprensión del contenido, se adjuntan a la presente:

- Circular UEFA n° 11/2026.
- Anexo 1: Modificaciones principales en las competiciones masculinas (UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa League, UEFA Conference League y UEFA Youth League).
- Anexo 2: Modificaciones principales en las competiciones femeninas (UEFA Women's Champions League y UEFA Women's Europa Cup).

En caso de necesitar cualquier otro tipo de información complementaria al respecto, no duden en contactar con el área de Asesoría Jurídica y/o el área de Competiciones de la RFEF, los cuales se encuentran a disposición de todos los estamentos del fútbol español para esclarecer las dudas que la nueva reglamentación pudiera generar.

Lo que se comunica para el general conocimiento y a los efectos oportunos.

Las Rozas de Madrid, a 6 de abril de 2026.

Álvaro de Miguel Casanueva  
Secretario General



No. 11/2026

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

For the attention of  
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference CLC/WF	Date 23 February 2026
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**Regulations**

**UEFA Champions League, 2024–27 cycle, 2026/27 season**

**UEFA Europa League, 2024–27 cycle, 2026/27 season**

**UEFA Conference League, 2024–27 cycle, 2026/27 season**

**UEFA Youth League, 2026/27**

**UEFA Women's Champions League, 2025–30 cycle, 2026/27 season**

**UEFA Women's Europa Cup, 2025–30 cycle, 2026/27 season**

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that the above-mentioned regulations were approved by the UEFA Executive Committee at its meeting in Brussels on 11 February 2026 and are now available in English in the [UEFA Documents portal](#). The German and French versions will be available in early April.

For the UEFA men's club competitions, the UEFA Executive Committee approved the regulations for the entire 2024–27 cycle at its meeting on 20 March 2024. Therefore, only minimal updates necessary for the implementation of new practices or based on decisions made since the publication of the last editions were presented for the coming season.

A similar approach has been taken for the UEFA women's club competitions. Following the successful introduction of the new UEFA Women's Champions League format and the UEFA Women's Europa Cup in the 2025/26 season, only minimal updates have been made to the regulations of these competitions.

A summary of the key amendments to the men's and women's club competition regulations is set out in Enclosures 1 and 2 respectively.

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All regulations will come into force on 1 March 2026.

Yours faithfully,

**U E F A**



Theodore Theodoridis  
General Secretary

Enclosures

- Key amendments to the regulations of the UEFA Champions League (UCL), UEFA Europa League (UEL), UEFA Conference League (UECL) and UEFA Youth League (UYL) 2026/27 (Enclosure 1)
- Key amendments to the Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League (UWCL) and UEFA Women's Europa Cup (UWEC) 2026/27 (Enclosure 2)

Cc (with enclosures)

- UEFA Executive Committee
- UEFA Club Competitions Committee
- UEFA Women's Football Committee
- European members of the FIFA Council
- FIFA, Zurich
- EFC, Nyon
- EL, Nyon

# Enclosure 1

## Key amendments to the regulations of the UEFA Champions League (UCL), UEFA Europa League (UEL), UEFA Conference League (UECL) and UEFA Youth League (UYL) 2026/27

This document lists and briefly explains the main amendments to the UCL, UEL, UECL and UYL 2026/27 competition regulations, compared to the regulations published for the previous season. Other changes compared with the previous season are updates to standard clauses applied consistently across all UEFA competitions or linguistic changes and are therefore not highlighted.

The decision of the UEFA Executive Committee regarding Article 5 of the UEFA club competition regulations – confirmation of assessment date – announced in circular letter 69/2025, will be reflected in the competition regulations.

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### A. Structural changes

Selected chapters and articles have been inserted or moved to give the document a more logical structure and make it easier to identify and locate related provisions in the regulations. The content remains unchanged, unless specified otherwise in Sections B and C of this document.

#### Chapter III – Match Scheduling – Changes to the match venue, match stadium or match schedule

##### UCL, UEL & UECL

Previous paragraph 27.04 moved to paragraph 26.04 and paragraph 27.08 moved to 26.05.

##### UYL

Previous paragraph 25.04 moved to paragraph 24.04 and paragraph 25.08 moved to 24.05.

## **B. Key amendments | UCL, UEL & UECL**

### Chapter VIII – Match Organisation – Art. 50 – Match equipment

UCL, UEL and UECL

New paragraph to introduce the use of a multi-ball system and match ball protocol as of the league phase (successfully tested during the 2025/26 season).

### Chapter IX – Teams and Competition Area – Art. 56 – Player replacements and substitutions

UCL, UEL and UECL

New provision stipulating that players selected for a doping control must remain available in the stadium for 30 minutes after the end of the match and regulating the process in case of injury.

## C. Key amendments | UYL

### Chapter I – General Provisions – Art. 4 – Admission criteria and procedure

#### UYL

New paragraph stipulating that a national association may enter its runner-up into the competition if the champion refuses to participate.

### Chapter II – Competition System – Art. 19 – Draw system – phase two

#### UYL

Deletion of the provision specifying that the team playing at home for the quarter final is determined by a separate draw, as the home team will now be determined by the round of 16 draw according to the bracket system, in line with the senior men's club competitions.

### Chapter IV – Player Registration – Art. 29 – Player lists

#### UYL

Adjustment of the definition of player eligibility from year(s) to season(s), in line with the senior men's club competitions.

### Annex B – UEFA Youth League Competition System

#### UYL

New competition bracket inserted for phase 2 of the competition, with the teams drawn in pre-determined positions as of the round of 16 to optimise the draw proceedings (i.e. no more home/away draw for the quarter-finals).

## Enclosure 2

### Key amendments to the Regulations of the UEFA Women's Champions League (UWCL) and UEFA Women's Europa Cup (UWEC) 2026/27

This document lists and briefly explains the most important amendments to the UWCL and UWEC competition regulations for 2026/27 compared with the regulations for the previous season. Other changes compared with the previous season are updates to standard clauses, applied consistently across all UEFA competitions, or linguistic changes and are therefore not highlighted.

The decision of the UEFA Executive Committee regarding Article 5 of the UEFA club competition regulations – confirmation of assessment date – announced in circular letter 69/2025 will also be reflected in each of the competition regulations.

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#### A. Structural changes

Selected chapters and articles have been inserted or moved to give the document a more logical structure and make it easier to identify and locate related provisions in the regulations. The content remains unchanged, unless specified otherwise in Sections B and C of this document.

#### Chapter III – Match Scheduling – Changes to the match venue, match stadium or match schedule

##### UWCL

Previous paragraph 28.04 moved to paragraph 27.04, and paragraph 28.08 moved to 27.05.

##### UWEC

Previous paragraph 23.04 moved to paragraph 22.04, and paragraph 23.08 moved to 22.05.

#### Chapter IV – Player Registration – Player lists

##### UWCL

Paragraphs on replacement of pregnant players moved from Article 33 (Subsequent registration) to Article 32 (Player lists).

##### UWEC

Paragraphs on replacement of pregnant players moved from Article 28 (Subsequent registration) to Article 27 (Player lists)

## **B. Key amendments | UWCL**

### **Chapter I – General Provisions, Art. 3 – Entries for the competition**

3.04, 3.05 and 3.06: Clarification of the rebalancing principles concerning UWCL and UWEC titleholders.

### **Chapter I – General Provisions, Art. 3 – Entries for the competition**

3.10: Update to the rebalancing scenario to maximise the number of four-team mini-tournaments in the first qualifying round.

### **Chapter II – Competition System, Art 14 – Draw system – qualifying phase**

14.04: Provision added to allow for draws to be either partially or fully digital.

### **Chapter II – Competition System, Art 19 – Draw system – knockout phase**

19.06: Provision added to allow for draws to be either partially or fully digital.

### **Chapter III – Match Scheduling, Art. 23 – First and second qualifying rounds host selection**

23.01: Updates to the voting procedure for selecting mini-tournament hosts and clarification of who can vote.

### **Chapter III – Match Scheduling, Art. 26 – Stadium announcements**

26.05: Removal of the distinction between main and backup stadiums, with a focus instead on ensuring that clubs declare two stadiums, at least one of which meets the criteria to be used for all matches in the competition. The update includes the possibility for the UEFA administration to, in certain circumstances, allow the declaration of just one stadium.

### **Chapter IV – Player Registration, Art. 32 – Player lists**

32.14: Addition of the possibility for clubs to replace one injured outfield player during the league phase (as already implemented for the men's club competitions this season).

### **Chapter IV – Player Registration, Art. 33 – Subsequent registration**

33.03: Clarification of the clubs' ability to register players who have already played in the other UEFA women's club competition that season.

### **Chapter VI – Equipment, Art. 44 – Badges**

44.03: Additional provision requiring the UWEC titleholder to wear the UWEC titleholder badge if qualified for the UWCL league phase.

### **Chapter VIII – Match Organisation, Art. 51 – Match equipment**

51.03: New paragraph to introduce the use of a multi-ball system and match ball protocol as of the league phase (successfully tested during the 2025/26 season).

### **Chapter IX – Teams and Competition Area, Art. 57 – Player replacements and substitutions**

57.03: New provision stipulating that players selected for a doping control must remain available in the stadium for 30 minutes after the end of the match and regulating the process in case of injury.

**Chapter XII – Financial Provisions, Art 67 – Financial rules – first and second qualifying rounds**

67.02 and 67.03: Clarification of host clubs' obligations towards visiting teams and of visiting team departures in three-team mini-tournaments.

**Chapter XIII – Exploitation of the Commercial Rights**

Clarification of responsibilities between UEFA and UC3 throughout this chapter.

**Chapter XIII – Exploitation of the Commercial Rights, Art. 76 – Pitch perimeter advertising boards requirement – league phase onwards**

76.01, 76.02 and 76.03: Updates to clarify UEFA's and host clubs' obligations in relation to LED advertising boards from the league phase onwards.

## C. Key amendments | UWEC

### **Chapter II – Competition System, Art 14 – Draw system – qualifying phase**

14.02: Provision made for draws to be either partially or fully digital.

### **Chapter II – Competition System, Art 16 – Draw system – knockout phase**

16.02 and 16.03: Updated competition system so that no draw is necessary to determine the order of home and away ties from the quarter-finals onwards. Provision made for draws to be either partially or fully digital.

### **Chapter IV – Player Registration, Art. 28 – Subsequent registration**

28.03: Clarification of the clubs' ability to register players who have already played in the other UEFA women's club competition that season.

### **Chapter VIII – Match Organisation, Art. 43 – Match equipment**

43.03: New paragraph to introduce the use of a multi-ball system and match ball protocol (successfully tested during the 2025/26 season).

### **Chapter VIII – Match Organisation, Art. 46 – Match protocol**

46.02 and 46.04: New paragraphs requiring the use of the UWEC walk-on and line-up music and addressing ceremonies at the final.

### **Chapter IX – Teams and Competition Area – Art. 49 – Player replacements and substitutions**

49.03: New provision stipulating that players selected for a doping control must remain available in the stadium for 30 minutes after the end of the match, and regulating the process in case of injury.

### **Chapter XIII – Exploitation of the Commercial Rights, Art. 59 – Commercial rights – general**

59.06: New paragraph requiring the competition graphics to be used when a match is produced for television.

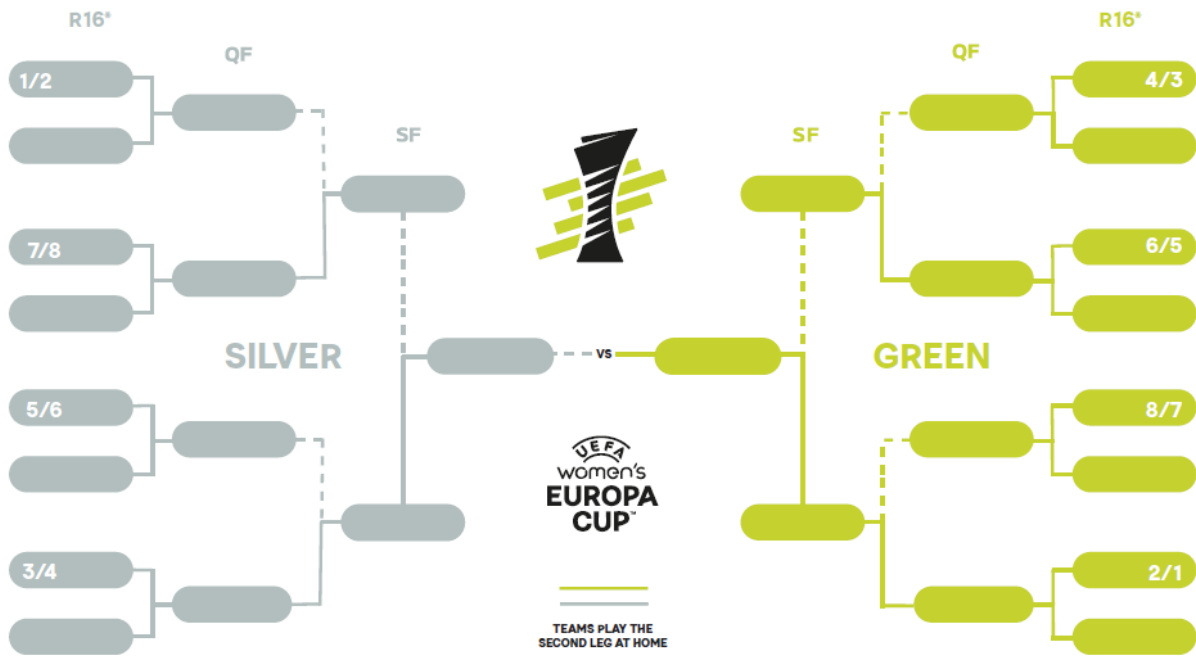
### **Chapter XIV – Media Matters – Art. 65 – Media access**

65.07: New paragraph obliging clubs to provide media with access to reasonable facilities to report on a match.

### **Annex B – UEFA Women's Europa Cup Competition System**

New competition bracket inserted with order of home and away ties pre-determined from quarter-finals onwards and seeding order inverted on the green side. This has no impact on which opponents a seed may play at any point in the competition but removes the need for a draw for later rounds, as at the time of the round of 16 draw, every team has an equal chance of playing the home leg or away leg first in every subsequent round.

# UWEC KNOCKOUT PHASE



\*FOR THE R16 ONLY, THE HOME AND AWAY ORDER OF MATCHES IS DETERMINED BY WAY OF DRAW