UEFA Club Licensing Regulations for UEFA Women's Club Competitions

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Contents

Preamble 6

I - General Provisions 7

Article 1 Scope of application 7
Article 2 Objectives 7
Article 3 Responsibilities of the UEFA Club Financial Control Body 8
Article 4 Definition of terms 8

II - UEFA Club Licensing 14

Chapter 1 - Licensor 14
Article 5 Responsibilities of the licensor 14
Article 6 Licensing administration 14
Article 7 Decision-making bodies 15
Article 8 Catalogue of sanctions 16
Article 9 Licensor's certification 16
Article 10 Core process 16
Article 11 Assessment procedures 17
Article 12 Equal treatment and confidentiality 17
Article 13 Exceptions policy 17
Chapter 2 - Licence applicant and licence 17
Article 14 Definition of licence applicant and two-year rule 17
Article 15 General responsibilities of the licence applicant 18
Article 16 Licence 18
Article 17 Special permission 19
Chapter 3 - Club licensing criteria 19
Article 18 General 19
Sporting criteria 19
Article 19 Youth development programme 19
Article 20 Women's youth teams 20
Article 21 Medical care of players 20
Article 22 Registration of players 21
Article 23 Written contract with professional players 21
Article 24 Loan of professional players 21
Article 25 Refereeing matters, Laws of the Game and anti-doping programme 21
Social and environmental sustainability criteria 21
Article 26 Social and environmental sustainability strategy 21
Article 27 Equality and inclusion 21
Article 28 Anti-racism 22
Article 29 Child and youth protection and welfare 22
Article 30 Football for all abilities 22
Article 31 Environmental protection 22
Infrastructure criteria 22

Article 32 Stadium for UEFA club competitions 22
Article 33 Training facilities - Availability 22
Article 34 Training facilities - Minimum infrastructure 23
Personnel and administrative criteria 23
Article 35 Administrative Officer 23
Article 36 Media officer 23
Article 37 Medical doctor 23
Article 38 Physiotherapist 24
Article 39 Social and environmental sustainability officer 24
Article 40 Head coach of women's first squad 24
Article 41 Assistant coach of women's first squad 24
Article 42 Goalkeeper coach of women's first squad 25
Article 43 Youth women's teams' coaches 25
Article 44 Common provisions applicable to UEFA coaching qualifications 25
Article 45 Written contracts 26
Article 46 Service providers 26
Article 47 Occupation of functions 26
Article 48 Organisational structure 27
Article 49 Duty of replacement during the season 27
Legal criteria 27
Article 50 Declaration in respect of participation in UEFA club competitions 27
Article 51 Legal information 28
Article 52 Licence applicant's identity, history and legacy 28
Article 53 Written contract with a football company 29
Article 54 Legal group structure 29
Article 55 Ownership and governance 30
Article 56 Written representation prior to the licensing decision 31
Financial criteria 32
Article 57 Reporting entity/entities and reporting perimeter 32
Article 58 Annual financial statements 33
Article 59 No overdue payables to football clubs 34
Article 60 No overdue payables in respect of employees 36
Article 61 No overdue payables to social/tax authorities 37
Article 62 No overdue payables in respect of UEFA and the licensor 38

III - Final Provisions 39

Article 63 Authoritative text and language of correspondence 39
Article 64 Annexes 39
Article 65 Compliance audits 39
Article 66 Disciplinary procedures 39
Article 67 Implementing provisions 39
Article 68 Adoption, abrogation and entry into force 39
Article 69 Exceptional and transitional provisions 40

Annex A - Exceptions policy 41
A.1 Exceptions granted to the licensors 41
A.2 Exceptions granted to football clubs 42

Annex B - Delegation of licensing responsibilities to an affiliated league 44
B.1 Principles 44

Annex C - Integration of UEFA club licensing criteria into national club licensing regulations 45
C.1 Principle 45
C.2 Process 45

Annex D - Extraordinary application of the club licensing system 46
D.1 Principles 46

Annex E - Determination of the auditor and auditor's assessment procedures 47
E.1 Principles 47
E.2 Assessment procedures 47

Annex F - Disclosure requirements for the financial statements 48
F.1 Principles 48
F.2 Balance sheet 48
F.3 Profit and loss account 49
F.4 Cash flow statement 50

Annex G - Notion of overdue payables 51
G.1 Principles 51

Annex H - Licensor's assessment procedures 53
H.1 Principles 53
H.2 Assessment of the auditor's report on the financial statements 53
H.3 Assessment of licensing documentation for no overdue payables 54
H.4 Assessment of the written representation prior to the licensing decision 55

Preamble

The following regulations have been adopted on the basis of 50(1) of the *UEFA Statutes*.

I General Provisions

Article 1 Scope of application

1.01 These regulations apply whenever expressly referred to by specific regulations governing women's club competitions to be played under the auspices of UEFA (hereinafter: UEFA club competitions).

1.02 These regulations govern the rights, duties and responsibilities of all parties involved in the UEFA club licensing system (Part II) and define in particular:

a. the minimum requirements to be fulfilled by a UEFA member association in order to act as the licensor for its clubs, as well as the minimum procedures to be followed by the licensor in its assessment of the club licensing criteria (Chapter 1);
b. the licence applicant and the licence required to enter the UEFA club competitions (Chapter 2);
c. the minimum sporting, social and environmental sustainability, infrastructure, personnel and administrative, legal and financial criteria to be fulfilled by a club in order to be granted a licence by its licensor as part of the admission procedure to enter the UEFA club competitions (Chapter 3).

Article 2 Objectives

2.01 These regulations aim:

a. to further promote and continuously improve the standard of all aspects of football in Europe and to give continued priority to the training and welfare of young players in every club;
b. to promote participation in football and contribute to the development of women's football;
c. to ensure that clubs have an adequate level of management and organisation;
d. to adapt clubs' sporting infrastructure to provide players, spectators and media representatives with suitable, well-equipped and safe facilities;
e. to protect the integrity and smooth running of the UEFA club competitions;
f. to safeguard each club's identity, history and legacy;
g. to encourage cooperation between licensors and clubs and enable the development of benchmarking for clubs in financial, sporting, legal, social and environmental sustainability, personnel, administrative and infrastructure-related criteria throughout Europe;
h. to embrace social and environmental sustainability in football;
i. to promote a healthy relationship between clubs and supporters and increase accessibility in football.

Article 3 Responsibilities of the UEFA Club Financial Control Body

3.01 The UEFA Club Financial Control Body carries out its duties as specified in the present regulations and in the *Procedural rules governing the UEFA Club Financial Control Body*.

3.02 In carrying out these responsibilities, the UEFA Club Financial Control Body ensures equal treatment of all licensors, licence applicants and licensees and guarantees full confidentiality of all information provided.

Article 4 Definition of terms

4.01 For the purpose of these regulations, the following definitions apply:

Administration procedures

A voluntary or mandatory process that may be used as an alternative to the liquidation of an entity, often known as going into administration. The day-to-day management of the activities of an entity in administration may be operated by the administrator on behalf of the creditors.

Agent/intermediary

A natural or legal person who, for a fee or free of charge, represents players and/or clubs in negotiations with a view to concluding an employment contract or represents clubs in negotiations with a view to concluding a transfer agreement.

Agreed-upon procedures

Procedures that have been agreed to by the auditor and the engaging party and, if relevant, other parties.

Annual accounting reference date

The date on which the reporting period for the annual financial statements ends.

Associate

An entity, including an unincorporated entity such as a partnership, which neither is a subsidiary nor has an interest in a joint venture and over which the investor has significant influence.

Auditor

An independent audit firm acting in compliance with the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards).

CFCB

UEFA Club Financial Control Body

Club licensing criteria

Requirements, divided into six categories (sporting, social and environmental sustainability, infrastructure, personnel and administrative, legal and financial), to be fulfilled by a licence applicant for it to be granted a licence.

Control

The power to conduct the activities of an entity and to direct its financial, operating or sporting policies which affect returns, by means of share ownership, voting power, constitutional documents (statutes), agreement, or otherwise.
Examples of control include a party:

a. holding a majority of the shareholders' or members' voting rights;

b. having the right to appoint or remove a majority of the members responsible for the governance of an entity (e.g. any administrative, management or supervisory bodies of an entity);

c. being a minority shareholder or a member of the entity and alone, pursuant to an agreement entered into with other shareholders or members of the entity or by any other means, being able to exercise control (including as defined under (a) or (b)).

Costs of a player's registration

Amounts paid or payable directly attributable to a player's registration, comprising:

a. fixed transfer compensation;

b. realised conditional transfer compensation for amounts which have become payable during the period;

c. any other directly attributable amounts paid and/or payable to another party such as another football club, agent/intermediary, or national football association/league.

Depreciation

The systematic allocation of the depreciable amount of a tangible asset over its useful life, i.e. the period over which an asset is expected to be available for use by an entity.

Directly attributable

Directly attributable means, in relation to a particular activity, that:

a. the expense, whether operating or non-operating, would have been avoided if that particular activity had not been undertaken; and

b. the expense is separately identifiable without apportionment.

Dividends

Distributions paid to holders of equity instruments.

Employee benefit expenses

All forms of consideration given by an entity in exchange for services rendered by employees or for the termination of employment, including in respect of directors, management and those responsible for governance.

Event or condition of major economic importance

An event or condition that is considered material to the financial statements of the reporting entity/entities and would require a different (adverse) presentation of the results of the operations, financial position and net assets of the reporting entity/entities if it occurred during the preceding reporting period.

Government

Any form of government, including government agencies, government departments, government entities and similar bodies, whether local or national.

Group

A parent and all its subsidiaries. A parent is an entity that has one or more subsidiaries. A subsidiary is an entity, including an unincorporated entity such as a partnership, that is controlled by another entity (known as the parent).

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

Standards and Interpretations issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). They comprise:

a. International Financial Reporting Standards;

b. International Accounting Standards; and

c. Interpretations originated by the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) or the former Standing Interpretations Committee (SIC).

ISRS 4400

International Standard on Related Services 4400 (Revised), Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagements.

Joint control

The contractually agreed sharing of control over an economic activity, which exists only when the strategic financial and operating decisions relating to the activity require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control (the venturers).

Joint venture

A contractual arrangement whereby two or more parties undertake an economic activity that is subject to joint control.

Key management personnel

Persons having authority over and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of an entity, directly or indirectly, including but not limited to any director (executive or otherwise) of the entity.

Licence

Certificate granted by the licensor confirming fulfilment of all minimum criteria by the licence applicant as part of the admission procedure for entering the UEFA club competitions.

Licence season

UEFA season for which a licence applicant has applied for/been granted a licence. It starts the day following the deadline for submission of the list of licensing decisions by the licensor to UEFA and lasts until the same deadline the following year.

Licensee

Licence applicant that has been granted a licence by its licensor.

Licensor

UEFA member association or its affiliated league that operates the club licensing system and grants licences.

List of licensing decisions

List submitted by the licensor to UEFA containing, among other things, information about the licence applicants that have undergone the licensing process and been granted or refused a licence by the national decision-making bodies in the format established and communicated by UEFA.

Material/Materiality

Omissions or misstatements of items or information are material if they could individually or collectively influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of the information submitted by the club. Materiality depends on the size and nature of the omission or misstatement judged in the surrounding circumstances or context. The size or nature of the item or information, or a combination of both, could be the determining factor.

Minimum criteria

Criteria to be fulfilled by a licence applicant in order to be granted a licence.

National accounting practice

The accounting and reporting practices and disclosures required of entities in a particular country.

Parties involved

Any person or entity involved in the UEFA club licensing system, including the UEFA administration, the CFCB, the licensor, the licence applicant/licensee and any individual involved on their behalf.

Party

A natural or legal person, a legal entity or a government.

Player registration(s)

Player registration(s) has the meaning set out in the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

Professional player

Professional player has the meaning set out in the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*. If applicable, a professional player may be male or female.

Reporting entity/entities

A registered member or football company or group of entities or some other combination of entities which is included in the reporting perimeter and which must provide the licensor with information for club licensing purposes.

Reporting period

A financial reporting period ending on the reporting entity's annual accounting reference date.

Significant change

An event that is considered material to the documentation previously submitted to the licensor and that would require a different presentation if it occurred prior to submission of the documentation.

Significant influence

The power to participate in the financial, operating or sporting policies of an entity, but not in control or joint control of that entity, by means of share ownership, voting power, constitutional documents (statutes), agreement, or otherwise.

Examples of significant influence include a party:

a. holding, directly or indirectly, between 20% and 50% of the shareholders' or members' voting rights;

b. having the ability to influence the appointment or removal of a majority of the members responsible for the governance of an entity (e.g. any administrative, management or supervisory bodies of an entity);

c. being a minority shareholder or a member of the entity and alone, pursuant to an agreement entered into with other shareholders or members of the entity or by any other means, being able to exercise any significant influence (including as defined under (a) and (b);

d. providing in one reporting period either alone or in aggregate with parties under the same ultimate controlling party or government (excluding UEFA, a UEFA member association and an affiliated league) an amount equivalent to at least 30% of the entity's total revenue for the same period.

Stadium

The venue used by a club for a football match including adjacent properties used for the organisation of such football match (for example offices, hospitality areas, press centre and accreditation centre).

Supplementary information

Financial information to be submitted to the licensor in addition to the financial statements if the minimum requirements for disclosure and accounting are not met.

Supplementary information must be prepared on a basis of accounting, and accounting policies, consistent with the financial statements. Financial information must be extracted from sources consistent with those used for the preparation of the annual financial statements. Where appropriate, disclosures in the supplementary information must agree with, or be reconciled to, the relevant disclosures in the financial statements.

Tangible assets

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes on a continuing basis in the entity's activities.

Training facility

A venue at which a club's football players undertake football training or youth development activities on a regular basis, comprising football pitches, indoor training facilities, dressing rooms and a medical room.

UEFA Club Licensing Quality Standard

Document that defines the minimum requirements with which licensors must comply to operate the club licensing system.

Ultimate beneficiary

A natural person on whose behalf an entity or arrangement is owned or controlled or a transaction is conducted.

Ultimate controlling party

A natural or legal person who/which has, directly or indirectly, ultimate control of an entity.

4.02 Any masculine or feminine grammatical forms used to refer to people in the different language versions of these regulations are used for readability only and should be understood to cover people of all genders, except where clear from the context.

II UEFA Club Licensing

Chapter 1 - Licensor

Article 5 Responsibilities of the licensor

5.01 The licensor is a UEFA member association and governs the club licensing system.

5.02 Under certain conditions as set out in Annex B, a UEFA member association may delegate the club licensing system to its affiliated league. Vis-à-vis UEFA, the UEFA member association remains liable and responsible for the proper implementation of the club licensing system, regardless of whether there is delegation or not.

5.03 The licensor must ensure that all applicable provisions defined in Part II of these regulations are integrated into national club licensing regulations, which must be submitted in one of UEFA's official languages to UEFA for review according to the procedure defined in Annex C.

5.04 In particular the licensor must:

a. establish an appropriate licensing administration as defined in Article 6;
b. establish at least two decision-making bodies as defined in Article 7;
c. set up a catalogue of sanctions as defined in Article 8;
d. define the core process in accordance with Article 10;
e. assess the documentation submitted by the licence applicants, consider whether this is appropriate and define the assessment procedures in accordance with Article 11;
f. ensure equal treatment of all licence applicants and guarantee them full confidentiality with regard to all information provided during the licensing process as defined in Article 12;
g. determine to its comfortable satisfaction whether each criterion has been met and what further information, if any, is needed for a licence to be granted.

Article 6 Licensing administration

6.01 The licensor must appoint a licensing manager who is responsible for the licensing administration.

6.02 The tasks of the licensing administration include:

a. preparing, implementing and further developing the club licensing system;
b. providing administrative support to the decision-making bodies;
c. assisting, advising and monitoring the licensees during the season;
d. informing UEFA of any event occurring after the licensing decision that constitutes a significant change to the information previously submitted to the licensor, including a change of legal form, legal group structure (including change of ownership) or identity;

e. serving as the contact point for and sharing expertise with the licensing departments of other UEFA member associations and with UEFA itself.

6.03 At least one member of the licensing administration or an external financial expert must have a financial background and a diploma in accountancy/auditing recognised by the appropriate national body, e.g. national trade association, or must have several years' experience in the above matters (a "recognition of competence").

Article 7 Decision-making bodies

7.01 The decision-making bodies are the First Instance Body and the Appeals Body and they must be independent of each other.

7.02 The First Instance Body decides on whether a licence should be granted to an applicant on the basis of the documents provided by the submission deadline set by the licensor and on whether a licence should be withdrawn.

7.03 The Appeals Body decides on appeals submitted in writing and makes a final decision on whether a licence should be granted or withdrawn.

7.04 Appeals may only be lodged by:

a. a licence applicant who received a refusal from the First Instance Body;
b. a licensee whose licence has been withdrawn by the First Instance Body; or
c. the licensing manager on behalf of the licensor.

7.05 The Appeals Body makes its decision based on the decision of the First Instance Body and all the evidence provided by the appellant with its written request for appeal and by the set deadline.

7.06 If a UEFA member association has an arbitration tribunal specified in its statutes, this court decides whether the club licensing system comes under its authority. In this respect, particular attention must be paid to the relevant deadlines for entering the UEFA club competitions.

7.07 Members of the decision-making bodies are elected or appointed in accordance with the UEFA member association statutes and must:

a. act impartially in the discharge of their duties;
b. abstain if there is any doubt as to their independence from the licence applicant or if there is a conflict of interest. In this connection, the independence of a member may not be guaranteed if he/she or any member of his/her family (spouse, child, parent or sibling) is a member, shareholder, business partner, sponsor or consultant of the licence applicant;
c. not act simultaneously as licensing manager or member of the licensing administration;
d. not belong simultaneously to a judicial statutory body of the licensor;
e. not belong simultaneously to the executive body of the UEFA member association or its affiliated league;
f. not belong simultaneously to the personnel of an affiliated club;

g. include at least one qualified lawyer and one qualified financial expert holding a qualification recognised by the appropriate national professional body.

7.08 The quorum of the decision-making bodies must be at least three members. In case of a tie, the chair has the casting vote.

7.09 The decision-making bodies must operate according to procedural rules – to be defined by the licensor – that, as a minimum, must regulate the following standards:

a. Deadlines, e.g. submission deadline
b. Safeguards of the principle of equal treatment
c. Representation, e.g. legal representation
d. The right to be heard, e.g. convocation, hearing
e. Official language (if applicable)
f. Time limit for requests, e.g. calculation, compliance, interruption, extension
g. Time limit for appeal
h. Effects of appeal, e.g. no delaying effect
i. Type of evidence requested
j. Burden of proof, e.g. licence applicant has burden of proof
k. Decision, e.g. in writing with reasoning
l. Grounds for complaints
m. Content and form of pleading
n. Deliberation/hearings
o. Cost of procedure/administrative fee/deposit

Article 8 Catalogue of sanctions

8.01 To guarantee an appropriate assessment process, the licensor must:

a. set up a catalogue of sanctions for the club licensing system for the non-respect of the criteria referred to in Paragraph 18.02 which may include a caution, a fine, the obligation to submit evidence or fulfil certain conditions by a certain deadline, etc. It falls to the competent national bodies to impose these sanctions on the licence applicants/licensees;
b. refer to the national disciplinary regulations in respect of violations of other licensing regulations, e.g. submission of falsified documents, non-respect of deadlines, sanctions against individuals.

Article 9 Licensor's certification

9.01 The licensor must be certified against the *UEFA Club Licensing Quality Standard* on an annual basis by an independent body appointed by UEFA.

Article 10 Core process

10.01 The licensor must define the core process for the verification of the club licensing criteria and thus manage the issuing of licences.

10.02 The core process starts at a time defined by the licensor and ends on submission of the list of licensing decisions to UEFA by the deadline communicated by the latter.

10.03 The core process consists of the following minimum key steps:

a. Submission of the licensing documentation to the licence applicants;
b. Return of the licensing documentation to the licensor;
c. Assessment of the documentation by the licensing administration;
d. Submission of the written representation to the licensor;
e. Assessment and decision by the decision-making bodies;
f. Submission of each licensing decision to UEFA within seven days of each decision being final.

10.04 The deadlines for the above key process steps must be clearly defined and communicated to the clubs concerned before the start of the core process by the licensor.

Article 11 Assessment procedures

11.01 The licensor defines the assessment procedures, except those used to verify compliance with the defined criteria for which specific assessment processes must be followed as set out in Annex H.

Article 12 Equal treatment and confidentiality

12.01 The licensor ensures equal treatment of all licence applicants during the core process.

12.02 The licensor guarantees the licence applicants full confidentiality with regard to all information submitted during the licensing process. Anyone involved in the licensing process or appointed by the licensor must sign a confidentiality agreement before assuming their tasks.

Article 13 Exceptions policy

13.01 UEFA may grant an exception to the provisions set out in Part II within the limits set out in Annex A.

Chapter 2 - Licence applicant and licence

Article 14 Definition of licence applicant and two-year rule

14.01 A licence applicant may only be a football club, i.e. a legal entity responsible for a women's football first team participating in national and UEFA club competitions and that either:

a. is a registered member of a UEFA member association and/or its affiliated league (hereinafter: registered member); or

b. has a contractual relationship with a registered member (hereinafter: football company).

14.02 By the start of the licence season, the membership and/or the contractual relationship (if any) must have lasted for at least two consecutive seasons. Furthermore, the licence applicant's women's football first team must have participated in the official national competitions for women's football first teams for at least two consecutive seasons (hereinafter: two-year rule).

14.03 Any change to the legal form, legal group structure (including a merger with another entity or transfer of football activities to another entity) or identity (including headquarters, name, crest or colours) of a licence applicant/licensee must be notified to the licensor and UEFA before the start of the licensing process.

14.04 Any change to the legal form, legal group structure (including a merger with another entity or transfer of football activities to another entity) or identity (including headquarters, name, crest or colours) of a licence applicant/licensee that took place within the two seasons preceding the start of the licence season to the detriment of the integrity of a competition, to the detriment of the club's history and legacy, to facilitate the licence applicant's qualification for a competition on sporting merit, or to facilitate the licence applicant's receipt of a licence is deemed an interruption of membership or contractual relationship (if any) within the meaning of this provision.

14.05 Exceptions to the two-year rule may be granted by the CFCB in accordance with Annex A.

Article 15 General responsibilities of the licence applicant

15.01 The licence applicant must provide the licensor with:

a. all necessary information and relevant documents to fully demonstrate that the licensing obligations are fulfilled; and
b. any other document relevant for decision-making by the licensor.

15.02 This includes information on the reporting entity/entities in respect of which sporting, social and environmental sustainability, infrastructure, personnel and administrative, legal and financial information is required to be provided.

15.03 Any event that occurs after the submission of the licensing documentation to the licensor and represents a significant change to the information previously submitted must be promptly notified to the licensor in writing (including a change of the licence applicant's legal form, legal group structure including ownership, or identity).

Article 16 Licence

16.01 Clubs which qualify for the UEFA club competitions on sporting merit must obtain a licence issued by their licensor according to the national licensing regulations, except where Article 17 applies.

16.02 A licence expires without prior notice at the end of the season for which it was issued.

16.03 A licence cannot be transferred.

16.04 A licence may be withdrawn by the licensor's decision-making bodies if:

a. any of the conditions for the issuing of a licence are no longer satisfied; or
b. the licensee violates any of its obligations under the national club licensing regulations.

16.05 As soon as a licence withdrawal is envisaged, the licensor must inform UEFA accordingly.

Article 17 Special permission

17.01 If a club qualifies for a UEFA club competition on sporting merit but has not undergone any licensing process at all or has undergone a licensing process which is lesser/not equivalent to the one applicable for top-division clubs to enter the UEFA club competitions, because it belongs to a division other than the top division, the licensor of the club concerned may – on behalf of such a club – request an extraordinary application of the club licensing system in accordance with Annex D.

17.02 Based on such an extraordinary application, UEFA may grant special permission to the club to enter the corresponding UEFA club competition subject to the relevant UEFA club competition regulations. Such an extraordinary application applies only to the specific club and for the season in question.

Chapter 3 - Club licensing criteria

Article 18 General

18.01 With the exception of those in Paragraph 18.02, the criteria defined in this chapter must be fulfilled by clubs in order for them to be granted a licence to enter the UEFA club competitions.

18.02 Failure to fulfil the criteria defined in Paragraph 21.02, Paragraph 21.03, Article 24 to Article 31, Article 34, Article 36, Article 39, Article 42,Paragraph 43.03 and Article 45 to Article 49 does not lead to refusal of a licence but to a sanction defined by the licensor according to its catalogue of sanctions (see Article 8).

Sporting criteria

Article 19 Youth development programme

19.01 The licence applicant must have a written youth development programme approved by the licensor.

19.02 The programme must cover at least the following areas:

a. Promotion of women's game
b. Youth development objectives and philosophy
c. Youth sector organisation (organisational chart, bodies involved, relation to licence applicant, youth teams, etc.)
d. Personnel (technical, medical, administrative, etc.) and minimum qualifications required
e. Infrastructure (training and match facilities, availability, etc.)
f. Financial resources (budget, contribution from licence applicant, players or local community, etc.)
g. Football education for various age groups (playing skills, technical, tactical and physical)
h. Educational initiatives (Laws of the Game, anti-doping, integrity, anti-racism)
i. Medical support for youth players (including maintaining medical records)
j. Review and feedback process to evaluate the results and achievements against the objectives
k. Duration of the programme (at least three years but maximum seven).

19.03 The licence applicant must further ensure that:

a. every youth player involved in its youth development programme can follow mandatory school education in accordance with national law; and
b. no youth player involved in its youth development programme is prevented from continuing their non-football education.

Article 20 Women's youth teams

20.01 The licence applicant must at least have two women's youth teams within the age range of 12 to 21.

20.02 Each women's youth team, within this age range, must take part in official competitions or programmes played at national, regional or local level and recognised by the UEFA member association.

Article 21 Medical care of players

21.01 The licence applicant must establish and apply a policy to ensure that all players eligible to play for its women's first squad undergo a yearly medical examination in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *UEFA Medical Regulations*.

21.02 The licence applicant must establish and apply a policy to ensure that all youth players above the age of 12 undergo a yearly medical examination in accordance with the relevant provisions defined by its licensor in line with its national legislation.

21.03 The licence applicant must ensure that all players eligible to play for its women's first squad are covered by health insurance in accordance with the relevant national legislation.

Article 22 Registration of players

22.01 All the licence applicant's players above the age of 12 must be registered with the UEFA member association or its affiliated league in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

Article 23 Written contract with professional players

23.01 Each of the licence applicant's professional players must have a written contract with the licence applicant in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

Article 24 Loan of professional players

24.01 The licence applicant must respect the provisions of the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players* with regard to loans of professional players.

Article 25 Refereeing matters, Laws of the Game and anti-doping programme

25.01 The licence applicant must ensure that all members of the women's first squad (players, coaches and other technical staff) attend a session or an event on refereeing organised by or in collaboration with the UEFA member association during the 12 months prior to the licence season.

25.02 The licence applicant must ensure that all members of its women's first squad (players, coaches and other technical staff) complete an anti-doping programme organised by or in collaboration with the UEFA member association during the 12 months prior to the licence season.

Social and environmental sustainability criteria

Article 26 Social and environmental sustainability strategy

26.01 The licence applicant must establish and implement a social and environmental sustainability strategy in line with the *UEFA Football Sustainability Strategy 2030* and relevant UEFA guidelines, for at least the areas of equality and inclusion, anti-racism, child and youth protection and welfare, football for all abilities, and environmental protection.

Article 27 Equality and inclusion

27.01 The licence applicant must establish and implement a policy to ensure equal rights and opportunities for all people following and contributing to football activities organised by the licence applicant.

Article 28 Anti-racism

28.01 The licence applicant must establish and implement a policy to tackle racism and to guarantee that all the licence applicant's policies, programmes and practices are exercised without discrimination of any kind.

Article 29 Child and youth protection and welfare

29.01 The licence applicant must establish and implement a policy to protect, safeguard and ensure the welfare of youth players and ensure they are in a safe environment when participating in activities organised by the licence applicant.

Article 30 Football for all abilities

30.01 The licence applicant must establish and implement a policy to make following and contributing to football activities organised by the licence applicant accessible and enjoyable for everyone, irrespective of disability or disabling factors.

Article 31 Environmental protection

31.01 The licence applicant must establish and implement a policy to improve its environmental footprint and sustainability in relation to the organisation of events, infrastructure construction and management.

Infrastructure criteria

Article 32 Stadium for UEFA club competitions

32.01 The licence applicant must have a stadium available for UEFA club competitions which must be within the territory of the UEFA member association and approved by the UEFA member association in accordance with the *UEFA Stadium Infrastructure Regulations*.

32.02 If the licence applicant is not the owner of a stadium, it must provide a written contract with the owner(s) of the stadium(s) it will use.

32.03 It must be guaranteed that the stadium(s) can be used for the licence applicant's UEFA home matches during the licence season.

32.04 The stadium(s) must fulfil the minimum requirements defined in the *UEFA Stadium Infrastructure Regulations* and be classified at least as a UEFA category 1 stadium.

Article 33 Training facilities - Availability

33.01 The licence applicant must have training facilities available throughout the year.

33.02 If the licence applicant is not the owner of the training facilities, it must provide a written contract with the owner(s) of the training facilities.

33.03 It must be guaranteed that the training facilities can be used by all the licence applicant's teams during the licence season, taking into account its youth development programme.

Article 34 Training facilities - Minimum infrastructure

34.01 As a minimum, the infrastructure of training facilities must fulfil the requirements defined by the licensor, for example:

a. relevant indoor/outdoor facilities;
b. the specificities of those facilities (i.e. number and size of football pitches);
c. dressing room specificities;
d. the medical room and its minimum equipment (i.e. defibrillator and first aid kit);
e. floodlighting;
f. any other relevant requirements identified by the licensor.

Personnel and administrative criteria

Article 35 Administrative Officer

35.01 The licence applicant must have appointed an administrative officer who is responsible for running its operative matters.

Article 36 Media officer

36.01 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified media officer who is responsible for media matters including the promotion of the licence applicant's activities on social media.

36.02 The media officer must hold as a minimum one of the following qualifications:

a. Diploma in journalism;
b. Media officer diploma issued by the licensor or an organisation recognised by the licensor;
c. Recognition of competence issued by the licensor, based on practical experience of at least three years in such matters.

Article 37 Medical doctor

37.01 The licence applicant must have appointed at least one doctor who is responsible for medical support of the women's first squad during matches and training as well as for doping prevention.

37.02 The medical doctor's qualification must be recognised by the national health authorities.

37.03 The medical doctor must be duly registered with the UEFA member association or its affiliated league.

37.04 The medical doctor must be the single point of contact for all medical data relating to the licence applicant's women's first squad.

Article 38 Physiotherapist

38.01 The licence applicant must have appointed at least one physiotherapist who is responsible for medical treatment and massages for the women's first squad during training and matches.

38.02 The physiotherapist's qualification must be recognised by the national health authorities.

38.03 The physiotherapist must be duly registered with the UEFA member association or its affiliated league.

Article 39 Social and environmental sustainability officer

39.01 The licence applicant must have appointed a social and environmental sustainability officer who is responsible for the implementation of social and environmental sustainability policies and measures in accordance with the *UEFA Football Sustainability Strategy 2030* and relevant UEFA guidelines.

Article 40 Head coach of women's first squad

40.01 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified head coach of the women's first squad who is confirmed as the head coach by the relevant UEFA member association and who is responsible for the following matters of the women's first squad:

a. Player selection;
b. Tactics and training;
c. Management of the players and technical staff in the dressing room and the technical area before, during and after matches; and
d. Duties regarding media matters (press conferences, interviews, etc.).

40.02 The head coach must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications, issued by a UEFA member association in accordance with the *UEFA Coaching Convention*:

a. Valid UEFA Pro coaching licence if the licensor (or its UEFA member association) is a signatory of the *UEFA Coaching Convention* at Pro level;
b. Valid UEFA A coaching licence if the licensor (or its UEFA member association) is not a signatory of the *UEFA Coaching Convention* at Pro level;
c. Valid UEFA recognition of competence equivalent to the licence required under (a) or (b) above.

Article 41 Assistant coach of women's first squad

41.01 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified coach who assists the head coach in all football matters of the women's first squad.

41.02 The assistant coach of the women's first squad must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications, issued by a UEFA member association in accordance with the *UEFA Coaching Convention*:

a. Valid UEFA A coaching licence if the licensor (or its UEFA member association) is a signatory of the UEFA Coaching Convention at Pro level;
b. Valid UEFA B coaching licence if the licensor (or its UEFA member association) is not a signatory of the UEFA Coaching Convention at Pro level;
c. Valid UEFA recognition of competence equivalent to the licence required under (a) or (b) above.

Article 42 Goalkeeper coach of women's first squad

42.01 The licence applicant must have appointed a qualified goalkeeper coach who assists the head coach in goalkeeping matters of the women's first squad.

42.02 The goalkeeper coach must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications, issued by a UEFA member association:

a. Valid UEFA goalkeeper B licence in accordance with the *UEFA Coaching Convention*;
b. Valid domestic goalkeeper licence;
c. Valid UEFA recognition of competence issued in accordance with the *UEFA Coaching Convention* and equivalent to the licence required under (a) above.

Article 43 Youth women's teams' coaches

43.01 The licence applicant must have appointed at least two qualified coaches who are responsible for all football matters related to the youth women's team(s) as defined under Article 20.

43.02 At least one of the youth head coaches must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications, issued by a UEFA member association in accordance with the *UEFA Coaching Convention*:

a. Valid UEFA Youth coaching licence;
b. Valid UEFA B coaching licence;
c. Valid UEFA recognition of competence which is equivalent to the licence required under (a) or (b) above as applicable.

43.03 Youth coaches must obtain a first-aid qualification and renew it in accordance with the relevant national regulations.

Article 44 Common provisions applicable to UEFA coaching qualifications

44.01 A holder of the required UEFA coaching licence within the meaning of Article 40 to Article 43 is considered a coach who, in accordance with the implementation provisions of the *UEFA Coaching Convention*, has:

a. been issued a UEFA coaching licence by a UEFA member association; or

b. at least started the required UEFA coaching diploma course. Registration for the required diploma course is not sufficient to meet this criterion.

44.02 If the *UEFA Coaching Convention* membership status of a UEFA member association is upgraded (e.g. from A to Pro level), the following apply:

a. With regard to Paragraph 44.01(a), the new highest or second-highest available UEFA coaching licence (as applicable) will become mandatory for the licence applicant as soon as the licensor has run its second course at this higher level. After this transitional period, only a holder of the newly required UEFA coaching diploma will be deemed in compliance with the criterion;
b. With regard to Paragraph 44.01(b), only participation in an education course for the newly available highest or second-highest UEFA coaching diploma (as applicable) will be deemed in compliance with the criterion.

44.03 In case of a partnership agreement under the *UEFA Coaching Convention*, the UEFA coaching qualifications offered by the UEFA member association with limited *UEFA Coaching Convention* membership status apply.

44.04 UEFA reserves the right to review the consequences of any downgrade in *UEFA Coaching Convention* membership status (e.g. from Pro to A level) as well as those of partnership agreements with the UEFA member association in question, and to take decisions on a case-by-case basis in this respect.

44.05 All qualified coaches must be duly registered with the UEFA member association and/or its affiliated league.

Article 45 Written contracts

45.01 All administrative, technical, medical and security staff or service providers performing any of the functions referred to in Article 35 to Article 43 must have written contracts with the licence applicant (or another entity within the legal group structure of the licence applicant) in accordance with the national legal framework.

45.02 The licence applicant must ensure that each coach's contract is in line with the relevant provisions of the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*.

Article 46 Service providers

46.01 If a given function is entrusted to a service provider in accordance with the national legal framework, the licence applicant must sign a written contract with the service provider. It must contain the following information as a minimum:

a. Defined tasks and responsibilities;
b. Information on the person(s) responsible for the function, including their relevant qualifications.

Article 47 Occupation of functions

47.01 The mandatory functions defined in Article 35 to Article 43 represent the minimum organisational structure required of the licence applicant.

47.02 One person could occupy more than one function, provided the person has sufficient time, adequate competencies and the necessary qualifications for each function, and no conflict of interest.

Article 48 Organisational structure

48.01 The licence applicant must provide the licensor with an organisational chart clearly identifying the relevant personnel and their hierarchical and functional responsibilities in its organisational structure.

48.02 As a minimum, the organisational chart should provide information on the key personnel defined from Article 35 to Article 38.

Article 49 Duty of replacement during the season

49.01 If a function defined in Article 35 to Article 43 becomes vacant during the licence season, the licensee must ensure that, within a period of a maximum of 60 days, the function is taken over by someone who holds the required qualification.

49.02 In the event that a function becomes vacant due to illness or accident, the licensor may grant an extension to the 60-day period only if reasonably satisfied that the person concerned is still medically unfit to resume their duties.

49.03 The licensee must promptly notify the licensor of any such replacement.

Legal criteria

Article 50 Declaration in respect of participation in UEFA club competitions

50.01 The licence applicant must submit a legally valid declaration confirming the following:

a. It recognises as legally binding the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, UEFA, the UEFA member association and, if any, the national league as well as the jurisdiction of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne as provided in the relevant articles of the *UEFA Statutes*.
b. At national level it will play in competitions recognised and endorsed by the UEFA member association (e.g. national championship, national cup).
c. At international level it will participate in competitions recognised by UEFA (to avoid any doubt, this provision does not relate to friendly matches).
d. It will promptly inform the licensor about any significant change, event or condition of major economic importance.
e. It will abide by and observe the licensor's club licensing regulations.
f. It will abide by and observe the *UEFA Club Licensing Regulations for UEFA Women's Club Competitions*.
g. Its reporting perimeter is defined in accordance with Article 57.

h. All revenues and costs related to each of the football activities listed in Paragraph 57.03 have been included in the reporting perimeter.
i. It will be accountable for any consequences of an entity included in the reporting perimeter not abiding by and observing items e) and f) above.
j. All relevant information related to any change of its legal form, legal group structure (including ownership) or identity from the two seasons preceding the start of the licence season have been reported to the licensor and UEFA.
k. All submitted documents are complete and correct.
l. It authorises the competent national club licensing administration and national club licensing bodies, the UEFA administration, and the UEFA Organs for the Administration of Justice to examine any relevant document and seek information from any relevant public authority or private body in accordance with national law.
m. It acknowledges that UEFA reserves the right to execute compliance audits in accordance with Article 65.

50.02 The declaration must be executed by an authorised signatory of the licence applicant no more than three months prior to the deadline for its submission to the licensor.

Article 51 Legal information

51.01 The licence applicant must submit at least the following legal information about the licence applicant and if different, the registered member:

a. Complete legal name;
b. Legal form;
c. Copy of current, valid statutes (e.g. company act);
d. Extract from a public register (e.g. trade register);
e. List of authorised signatories;
f. Type of signature required (e.g. individual, collective).

51.02 The licence applicant must also provide the following contact information:

a. Address of its official headquarters;
b. Official contact details (such as phone/fax number and email addresses);
c. Address of its official public website;
d. Name and direct contact details of its main official contact person for club licensing matters.

Article 52 Licence applicant's identity, history and legacy

52.01 All elements that constitute the visual identity of a football club in connection and combination with the official name and/or the name of the team in competitions, such as the official crest, logos, other trademarks and official club colours, must be owned by and be in the sole control of the licence applicant or the registered member (if different to the licence applicant) as defined in Paragraph 14.01.

52.02 The licence applicant's identity must be registered with the licensor together with its history and legacy, including its sporting achievements.

Article 53 Written contract with a football company

53.01 If the licence applicant is a football company as defined in Paragraph 14.01(b), it must provide a written contract of assignment with a registered member.

53.02 The contract must stipulate the following, as a minimum:

a. The football company must comply with the applicable statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA, UEFA, the UEFA member association and its affiliated league.
b. The football company must not further assign its right to participate in a competition at national or international level.
c. The football company's right to participate in such a competition ceases to apply if the assigning club's membership of the association ceases.
d. If the football company is put into bankruptcy or enters liquidation, this is deemed to be an interruption of membership or contractual relationship within the meaning of Article 14. For the sake of clarity, a licence already granted to the football company cannot be transferred from the football company to the registered member.
e. The UEFA member association must be reserved the right to approve the name under which the football company participates in national competitions.
f. The football company must, at the request of the competent national arbitration tribunal or the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), provide views, information and documents on matters regarding the football company's participation in national or international competitions.

53.03 The contract of assignment and any amendment to it must be approved by the UEFA member association or its affiliated league.

Article 54 Legal group structure

54.01 The licence applicant must provide the licensor with a document that includes a chart with its legal group structure at the annual accounting reference date prior to the deadline for the submission of its licence application to the licensor.

54.02 This document must clearly identify and include information on:

a. the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member;
b. any subsidiary of the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member;
c. any associate entity of the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member;
d. any party that has 10% or greater direct or indirect ownership of the licence applicant, or 10% or greater voting rights;
e. any direct or indirect controlling entity of the licence applicant;

f. any other football club, in respect of which any of the parties identified in a) to e), or any of their key management personnel, have any ownership interest, voting rights or membership or any other involvement or influence whatsoever in its management, administration or sporting performance; and
g. the key management personnel of the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member.

54.03 The reporting perimeter as defined in Article 57 must also be clearly identified in the document.

54.04 The following information must be provided in relation to each of the parties included in the legal group structure:

a. Name and, if applicable, legal form,
b. Main activity, and
c. Percentage of ownership interest and, if different, percentage of voting rights.

54.05 For any subsidiary of the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member, the following information must also be provided:

a. Share capital,
b. Total assets,
c. Total revenues, and
d. Total equity.

54.06 The licence applicant must provide information about any changes to the information indicated in Paragraph 54.02, Paragraph 54.03 and Paragraph 54.04 that occurred during the period covered by the annual financial statements, and during the period from the annual accounting reference date up to the submission of the information to the licensor.

54.07 If deemed relevant the licensor may request the licence applicant/licensee to provide other information in addition to that listed above.

54.08 The licence applicant must confirm that the information about the legal group structure is complete, accurate and in compliance with these regulations. This must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature by the executive body/ authorised signatories of the licence applicant.

Article 55 Ownership and governance

55.01 The licence applicant must submit a document which contains information on:

a. the ultimate controlling party of the licence applicant;
b. the ultimate beneficiary of the licence applicant;
c. the members responsible for the governance of the licence applicant (e.g. administrative, management or supervisory bodies); and
d. any party with a significant or decisive influence over the licence applicant.

55.02 The following information must be provided in relation to each of the parties identified in Paragraph 55.01 as at the date of submission of this information to the licensor:

a. Name and, if applicable, legal form;
b. Main activity;
c. Percentage of ownership interest and, if different, percentage of voting rights in respect of the licence applicant;
d. If applicable, key management personnel; and
e. Any other football club in respect of which the party, or any of its key management personnel, has any ownership interest, voting rights or membership or any other involvement or influence whatsoever.

55.03 The licence applicant must provide information about any changes to the information indicated in Paragraph 55.01 and Paragraph 55.02 that occurred during the period covered by the annual financial statements, and during the period from the annual accounting reference date up to the submission of the information to the licensor.

55.04 If a change has occurred as indicated in Paragraph 55.03, it must be described in detail by the licence applicant in the information to the licensor. As a minimum the following information must be provided:

a. The date on which the change occurred;
b. A description of the purpose of and reasons for the change;
c. Implications for the licence applicant's financial, operating and sporting policies; and
d. A description of any impact on the licence applicant's equity or debt situation.

55.05 If deemed relevant the licensor may request the licence applicant to provide additional information other than that listed above.

55.06 The licence applicant must confirm that the declaration on the ultimate controlling party, ultimate beneficiary and party with a significant or decisive influence is complete, accurate and in compliance with these regulations. This must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature by the executive body/ authorised signatories of both the licence applicant and the licence applicant's ultimate controlling party.

Article 56 Written representation prior to the licensing decision

56.01 The licence applicant must submit written representation to the licensor within the seven days prior to the start of the First Instance Body's decision-making process, as defined by the licensor in accordance with Article 10.

56.02 The licence applicant must confirm:

a. that all documents submitted to the licensor are complete, accurate and in compliance with these regulations;
b. whether or not any significant change or similar event has occurred in relation to its licensing application or any of the club licensing criteria;

c. whether or not any event or condition of major economic importance has occurred that may have an adverse impact on the licence applicant's financial position since the balance sheet date of the preceding audited annual financial statements (if so, the management representations letter must include a description of the nature of the event or condition and an estimate of its financial effect, or a statement that such an estimate cannot be made);
d. whether or not the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member or any parent company of the licence applicant included in the reporting perimeter is seeking or has received protection from its creditors pursuant to laws or regulations within the 12 months preceding the licence season.

56.03 Approval by the licence applicant's management must be evidenced by way of a signature on behalf of the executive body of the licence applicant.

Financial criteria

Article 57 Reporting entity/entities and reporting perimeter

57.01 The licence applicant determines and provides to the licensor the reporting perimeter, i.e. the entity or combination of entities, e.g. single entity, consolidated or combined financial statements, in respect of which financial information has to be provided.

57.02 The reporting perimeter must include:

a. the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member;
b. any subsidiary of the licence applicant and, if different, the registered member;
c. any entity, irrespective of whether it is included in the legal group structure, which either generates revenues, performs services or incurs costs in respect of any of the women's football activities defined in Paragraph 57.03(a) and (b);
d. any other entity included in the legal group structure which either generates revenues, performs services or incurs costs in respect of any of the women's football activities defined in Paragraph 57.03(c) to (j).

57.03 Women's football activities include:

a. employing/recruiting female professional players and other employees (as defined in Article 60) including payment of all forms of consideration to employees arising from contractual or legal obligations;
b. acquiring/selling female players' registrations (including loans);
c. ticketing;
d. sponsorship and advertising;
e. broadcasting;
f. merchandising and hospitality;
g. club operations (administration, matchday activities, travel, scouting, etc.);
h. use and management of stadium and training facilities;
i. youth development; and

j. financing through debt, equity or other instruments that results in obligations on the licence applicant, or that is directly or indirectly secured or pledged against the licence applicant's assets or revenues.

57.04 An entity may be excluded from the reporting perimeter only if:

a. the football activities it performs are already entirely reflected in the financial statements of one of the entities included in the reporting perimeter; or
b. its activities are entirely unrelated to the football activities defined in Paragraph 57.03 or are non-football activities not related to the club; or
c. it is immaterial compared with all the entities that form the reporting perimeter and it does not perform any of the football activities defined in Paragraph 57.03(a) and (b).

57.05 The licence applicant must submit a declaration by an authorised signatory which confirms:

a. that all revenues and costs related to each of the football activities indicated in Paragraph 57.03 have been included in the reporting perimeter, providing a detailed explanation if this is not the case; and
b. whether any entity included in the legal group structure has been excluded from the reporting perimeter, justifying any such exclusion with reference to Paragraph 57.04.

57.06 The licence applicant must provide information about any changes to the information indicated in Paragraph 57.01 and Paragraph 57.02 that occurred during the period covered by the annual financial statements, and during the period from the annual accounting reference date up to the submission of the information to the licensor.

Article 58 Annual financial statements

58.01 The licence applicant must prepare and submit, by the date communicated by the licensor, annual financial statements for the reporting period ending in the year preceding the deadline for submission of the application to the licensor and preceding the deadline for submission of the list of licensing decisions to UEFA.

58.02 Annual financial statements, including comparative amounts for the prior period, must be prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards or national accounting standards (as applicable) and must include:

a. a balance sheet as at the end of the reporting period;
b. a profit and loss account/income statement for the reporting period;
c. a cash flow statement for the reporting period;
d. a statement of changes in equity over the reporting period;
e. notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes; and
f. a financial review by management.

58.03 The annual financial statements must be audited by an independent auditor in accordance with Annex E.

58.04 If the annual financial statements do not meet the minimum disclosure requirements set out in Annex F, then the licence applicant must also submit to the licensor:

a. supplementary information to meet the minimum disclosure requirements set out in Annex F; and
b. an assessment report provided by the same auditor that signs the annual financial statements by way of agreed-upon procedures prescribed by the licensor to confirm the completeness and accuracy of the supplementary information.

58.05 When the women's football teams and activities are part of the same legal entity/reporting perimeter as men's football teams and activities, the licence applicant must identify the revenues and expenses attributable to women's football activities and prepare a profit and loss account in accordance with the requirements of Annex F. Such profit and loss account must be assessed by independent auditor by way of agreed-upon procedures according to ISRS 4400 or relevant national standards or practices where these comply with, as a minimum, the requirements of ISRS 4400. The licensor must assess the information submitted by the licence applicant and review the auditor's report.

Article 59 No overdue payables to football clubs

59.01 As at the 31 March preceding the licence season, the licence applicant must prove that it has no overdue payables (as defined in Annex G) to other football clubs as a result of obligations arising from transfers of female players due to be paid by the 28 February preceding the licence season.

59.02 Payables are those amounts due to football clubs as a result of:

a. transfers of female professional players (as defined in the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*), including any amount payable upon fulfilment of certain conditions;
b. female players registered for the first time as professionals, including any amount payable upon fulfilment of certain conditions;
c. training compensation and solidarity contributions in relation to female players as defined in the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*; and
d. any joint and several liability decided by a competent authority for the termination of a contract by a female player.

59.03 The licence applicant must prepare and submit to the licensor a transfers table unless the transfers information has already been disclosed to the licensor under existing national transfer requirements, e.g. national clearing house system, and the licensor is able to extract and assess all the required information as described in Paragraph 59.04 and Paragraph 59.05. A transfers table must be prepared even if there have been no transfers/loans during the relevant period.

59.04 The licence applicant must disclose:

a. all new female player registrations (including loans) as a result of transfer agreements concluded in the 12-month period up to 28 February, irrespective of whether there is an amount outstanding as at 28 February;
b. all transfers of female players (whether they relate to the release or registration of players and irrespective of when the transfers were undertaken) for which a payable is outstanding as at 28 February; and
c. all transfers of female players subject to any amounts disputed as at 28 February.

59.05 The transfers table must contain the following information as a minimum (in respect of each female player transfer):

a. Player's name and date of birth;
b. Date of the transfer agreement;
c. Name of the football club that is the creditor;
d. Transfer (or loan) fee paid or payable (including training compensation and solidarity contribution) even if payment has not been requested by the creditor;
e. Other direct costs of the player's registration paid or payable;
f. Any other compensation paid or payable in the scope of a transfer agreement;
g. Amounts settled before 28 February and payment date(s);
h. Balance payable as at 28 February, including the due date(s) for each unpaid element;
i. Amounts overdue as at 28 February, including the due date(s) for each unpaid element and, if applicable, amounts settled between 28 February and 31 March together with the settlement dates as well as any remaining overdue payable as at 31 March (rolled forward from 28 February), together with explanatory comment;
j. Amounts deferred as at 28 February (as defined in Annex G), including the original and new due date(s) for each deferred element, and the date when a written agreement between the parties was concluded;
k. Amounts disputed as at 28 February (as defined in Annex G), including the case references and a brief description of the positions of all involved parties; and
l. Conditional amounts (contingent liabilities) not yet recognised in the balance sheet as at 28 February.

59.06 The licence applicant must reconcile its liabilities as per the transfers table to its underlying accounting records.

59.07 The licence applicant must confirm that the transfers table is complete, accurate and in compliance with these regulations. This must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature by the executive body/authorised signatories of the licence applicant.

Article 60 No overdue payables in respect of employees

60.01 As at the 31 March preceding the licence season, the licence applicant must prove that it has no overdue payables (as defined in Annex G) in respect of its employees as a result of contractual or legal obligations due to be paid by the 28 February preceding the licence season.

60.02 Payables are all forms of consideration due in respect of employees as a result of contractual or legal obligations, including wages, salaries, image rights payments, bonuses and other benefits.

60.03 The term "employees" includes the following persons:

a. All female professional players according to the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*;
b. All administrative, technical, medical and security staff performing any of the functions referred to in Article 35 to Article 43; and
c. Service providers performing any of the functions referred to in Article 35 to Article 43.

60.04 If any of the "employees" is employed by, contracted to, a consultant of or otherwise provides services to an entity within the legal group structure or the reporting perimeter other than the licence applicant, these payables must be also included in the scope of Paragraph 60.01.

60.05 Amounts payable to persons who, for various reasons, are no longer employed or engaged by the licence applicant or an entity within the legal group structure of the licence applicant fall within the scope of this criterion and must be settled within the period stipulated in the contract or defined by law, regardless of how such payables are accounted for in the financial statements.

60.06 The licence applicant must prepare and submit to the licensor an employees table showing the following balances in respect of all employees as at the 28 February preceding the licence season:

a. Balance payable;
b. Amounts overdue as well as any remaining overdue amounts as at 31 March (rolled forward from 28 February);
c. Amounts deferred (as defined in Annex G); and
d. Amounts disputed (as defined in Annex G).

60.07 The following information must be given per employee, as a minimum, in the employees table, together with an explanatory comment:

a. Name and position/function of the employee (irrespective of whether the person was employed or engaged during the year up to 28 February);
b. Start date and end date (if applicable);
c. Amounts payable and amounts overdue as at 28 February including the due date(s) for each unpaid element and, if applicable, amounts settled between 28 February and 31 March together with the settlement dates as well as any remaining overdue payable as at 31 March (rolled forward from 28 February);

d. Amounts deferred as at 28 February, including the original and new due date(s) for each deferred element, and the date when a written agreement between the parties was concluded; and
e. Amounts disputed as at 28 February, including the case references and a brief description of the positions of all involved parties.

60.08 The licence applicant must reconcile its liabilities as per the employees table to its underlying accounting records.

60.09 The licence applicant must confirm that the employees table is complete, accurate and in compliance with these regulations. This must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature by the executive body/authorised signatories of the licence applicant.

Article 61 No overdue payables to social/tax authorities

61.01 As at the 31 March preceding the licence season, the licence applicant must prove that it has no overdue payables (as defined in Annex G) to social/tax authorities as a result of contractual or legal obligations in respect of all employed individuals due to be paid by the 28 February preceding the licence season.

61.02 Payables in respect of social/tax authorities are those amounts due as a result of contractual or legal obligations in respect of all employed individuals. Payables include, but are not limited to, personal income tax, pension fund payments, social security and similar payments.

61.03 The licence applicant must submit to the licensor a social/tax table as at the 28 February preceding the licence season showing:

a. total balance payable to the social/tax authorities;
b. total amount overdue as well as any remaining overdue amount as at 31 March (rolled forward from 28 February);
c. total amount deferred (as defined in Annex G);
d. total amount disputed (as defined in Annex G); and
e. total amount subject to a pending decision by the competent authority (as defined in Annex G).

61.04 The following information must be given, as a minimum, in a social/tax table together with explanatory comment:

a. Name of the creditor;
b. Amounts overdue as at 28 February, including the due date(s) for each unpaid element; amounts settled between 28 February and 31 March and the corresponding settlement dates, as well as any remaining overdue payable as at 31 March (rolled forward from 28 February);
c. Amounts deferred as at 28 February, including the original and new due date(s) for each deferred element, and the date when a written agreement between the parties was concluded;
d. Amounts subject to a pending decision by the competent authority as at 28 February and a brief description of the licence applicant's request; and

e. Amounts disputed as at 28 February, including the case references and a brief description of the positions of all involved parties.

61.05 The licence applicant must reconcile its liabilities as per the social/tax table to its underlying accounting records.

61.06 The licence applicant must confirm that the social/tax table is complete, accurate and in compliance with these regulations. This must be evidenced by way of a brief statement and signature by the executive body/authorised signatories of the licence applicant.

Article 62 No overdue payables in respect of UEFA and the licensor

62.01 As at the 31 March preceding the licence season, the licence applicant must prove that it has no overdue payables (as defined in Annex G) in respect of UEFA, additional entities designated by UEFA or the licensor as a result of obligations due to be paid by the 28 February preceding the licence season.

62.02 Payables in respect of UEFA include, but are not limited to, financial contributions imposed by the CFCB.

62.03 The licence applicant must prepare and submit a declaration confirming total payables to UEFA and additional entities designated by UEFA and the licensor and the absence or existence of overdue payables by the deadline and in the form communicated by the licensor.

III Final Provisions

Article 63 Authoritative text and language of correspondence

63.01 If there is any discrepancy in the interpretation of the English, French, German and Russian versions of these regulations, the English version prevails.

63.02 All correspondence between UEFA and the licensor and/or the licensee must be in one of the three UEFA official languages (English, French and German) and UEFA may ask the licensor and/or licensee for a certified translation of documents at their expense.

Article 64 Annexes

64.01 All annexes to the present regulations form an integral part thereof.

Article 65 Compliance audits

65.01 The CFCB and the UEFA administration or its mandated agency, assessor or other body reserve the right to, at any time, conduct compliance audits of the licensor and of the licence applicant/licensee.

65.02 Compliance audits aim to ensure that the licensor and the licence applicant/licensee have fulfilled their obligations as defined in these regulations and that the licence was correctly awarded at the time of the licensor's final decision.

65.03 For the purpose of compliance audits, in the event of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the national club licensing regulations between a UEFA official language version and the official national language version, the UEFA official language version prevails.

Article 66 Disciplinary procedures

66.01 The CFCB at all times bears in mind the overall objectives of these regulations, in particular to defeat any attempt to circumvent those objectives.

66.02 Any breach of these regulations may be dealt with by UEFA in accordance with these regulations and the *Procedural rules governing the UEFA Club Financial Control Body*.

Article 67 Implementing provisions

67.01 UEFA will take the decisions and adopt, in the form of directives, the detailed provisions necessary for implementing these regulations.

Article 68 Adoption, abrogation and entry into force

68.01 These regulations were adopted by the UEFA Executive Committee at its meeting on 20 May 2026.

68.02 These regulations replace the *UEFA Club Licensing Regulations for the UEFA Women's Club Competitions (Edition 2024)*.

68.03 These regulations come into force on 1 June 2026, with the exceptional and transitional provisions described in Article 69.

Article 69 Exceptional and transitional provisions

69.01 By exception to Article 68, Paragraph 40.02 enters into force on 1 June 2028.

69.02 By exception to Article 68, Paragraph 41.02 enters into force on 1 June 2028.

69.03 By exception to Paragraph 40.02 for the licence season 2027/28 and 2028/29, the head coach must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications, issued by a UEFA member association in accordance with the *UEFA Coaching Convention*:

a. Valid UEFA A coaching licence;
b. Valid UEFA recognition of competence equivalent to the licence required under (a) above.

69.04 By exception to Paragraph 41.02 for the licence season 2027/28 and 2028/29, the assistant coach of the women's first squad must hold one of the following minimum coaching qualifications, issued by a UEFA member association in accordance with the *UEFA Coaching Convention*:

a. Valid UEFA B coaching licence;
b. Valid UEFA recognition of competence equivalent to the licence required under (a) above.

Annex A Exceptions policy

A.1 Exceptions granted to the licensors

A.1.1 Principles

A.1.1.1 The UEFA administration may, in accordance with Article 13, grant the following exceptions:

a. Non-applicability of a minimum requirement concerning the decision-making bodies or process defined in Article 7 due to national law or for any other reason;
b. Non-applicability of a minimum requirement concerning the core process defined in Article 10 due to national law or for any other reason;
c. Non-applicability of a minimum assessment procedure defined in Article 11 due to national law or for any other reason;
d. Non-applicability of a certain criterion defined in Part II, Chapter 3 and the relevant annexes due to national law or for any other reason; and
e. Extension of the introduction period for the implementation of a criterion or a category of criterion defined in Part II, Chapter 3.

A.1.1.2 The above exceptions are granted to a licensor and apply to all licence applicants that are subject to the jurisdiction of that licensor.

A.1.2 Process

A.1.2.1 The UEFA administration acts as the decision-making body on exception requests submitted by licensors and its decisions on such matters are final.

A.1.2.2 An exception request must be in writing, clear and well founded.

A.1.2.3 Exception requests must be submitted by the licensor by the deadline and in the form communicated by the UEFA administration.

A.1.2.4 The UEFA administration uses the necessary discretion to grant exceptions within the limits of these regulations.

A.1.2.5 The status and situation of football within the territory of the licensor will be taken into account when considering an exception. These include, for example:

a. size of the territory, population, geography, economic background;
b. size of the licensor (number of clubs, number of registered players and teams, size and quality of the administration of the licensor, etc.);
c. level of football (professional, semi-professional or amateur clubs);
d. status of football as a sport within the territory and its market potential (average attendance, TV market, sponsorship, revenue potential, etc.);
e. UEFA coefficient (of the UEFA member association and its clubs) and FIFA ranking;
f. stadium ownership situation (club, city, community, etc.) within the territory of the national association; and

g. support (financial and other) from the national, regional and local authorities, including the national sports ministry.

A.1.2.6 A decision by the UEFA administration on an exception request shall be communicated to the licensor in writing, stating the reasoning. The licensor must then communicate it to all its licence applicants.

A.1.2.7 An appeal can be lodged against a final decision by the UEFA administration in writing before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *UEFA Statutes*.

A.2 Exceptions granted to football clubs

A.2.1 Principles

A.2.1.1 The CFCB First Chamber may, pursuant to Paragraph 14.05, grant exceptions to the two-year rule defined in Article 14.

A.2.1.2 Such exceptions are granted to football clubs that wish to apply for a licence.

A.2.2 Process

A.2.2.1 The CFCB First Chamber acts as the decision-making body and makes final decisions in respect of exceptions requested by football clubs.

A.2.2.2 An exception request must be in writing, clear and well founded.

A.2.2.3 An exception request must be submitted by the licensor of, and on behalf of, the requesting football club by the deadline and in the form communicated by the UEFA administration. The requesting football club must ensure that its exception request is complete and accurate.

A.2.2.4 The CFCB First Chamber uses the necessary discretion to grant exceptions within the limits of these regulations.

A.2.2.5 When considering an exception, the CFCB First Chamber shall ensure that the objectives of the two-year rule are met. These include, for example:

a. preserving and protecting each club's identity, history and legacy;
b. protecting the integrity of the competitions and the European sports model, including the principle of promotion and relegation;
c. acting as a deterrent against financial misconduct;
d. protecting clubs' creditors;
e. encouraging new investments into existing clubs; and
f. avoiding circumvention of the *UEFA Club Licensing Regulations for UEFA Women's Club Competitions*.

A.2.2.6 The form and content of decisions issued by the CFCB First Chamber are determined by the applicable *Procedural rules governing the UEFA Club Financial Control Body*.

A.2.2.7 A decision by the CFCB First Chamber on an exception request shall be notified to the requesting football club and to its licensor in accordance with the applicable *Procedural rules governing the UEFA Club Financial Control Body*.

A.2.2.8 An appeal can be lodged against a final decision by the CFCB First Chamber in writing before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *UEFA Statutes*.

Annex B Delegation of licensing responsibilities to an affiliated league

B.1 Principles

B.1.1 The UEFA Executive Committee decides on any requests from UEFA member associations to delegate or to withdraw licensing responsibilities to/from their affiliated league as specified in Paragraph 5.02.

B.1.2 Well-founded requests can be made to UEFA at any time. All the requests presented to UEFA in writing before the start of the core process will be considered for effect in the following sporting season.

B.1.3 The timing of such a request must be carefully considered. UEFA will not accept any request to delegate or to withdraw licensing responsibilities during the core process in order to ensure continuity.

B.1.4 The UEFA Executive Committee may approve a delegation request if the UEFA member association provides written confirmation that the league:

a. is affiliated to the UEFA member association and has accepted its statutes and regulations and the decisions of its responsible and competent bodies in writing;
b. is responsible for running the top domestic championship;
c. has agreed with the UEFA member association on the use of the financial contributions paid by UEFA to the UEFA member association for club licensing purposes;
d. has submitted a written decision by the legislative body of this affiliated league to comply with the following obligations towards UEFA:
    i. to have national club licensing regulations that implement the UEFA club licensing criteria according to the provisions of these regulations and any future amendments thereto;
    ii. to grant UEFA and its mandated agencies, assessors and other bodies all necessary access to verify the operation of the club licensing system and the decisions of the decision-making bodies at any time;
    iii. to allow UEFA and its mandated agencies, assessors and other bodies to conduct compliance audits at any time of clubs that qualify for the UEFA club competitions;
    iv. to accept any UEFA decision made with regard to exceptions or compliance audits;
    v. to issue the appropriate sanctions to the relevant parties according to UEFA's recommendations or decisions.

Annex C Integration of UEFA club licensing criteria into national club licensing regulations

C.1 Principle

C.1.1 In its national club licensing regulations, each licensor must define the parties involved, their rights and duties, the criteria and the necessary processes in accordance with these regulations for entering UEFA club competitions (see Paragraph 5.03).

C.2 Process

C.2.1 The licensor must finalise the wording of its national club licensing regulations and send them, in one of UEFA's official languages, to UEFA by the deadline communicated by the latter.

C.2.2 The licensor is responsible for ensuring, and must demonstrate to UEFA, that all applicable provisions of these regulations have been integrated in its national club licensing regulations. Exceptions may be granted according to Article 13 of these regulations.

C.2.3 The UEFA administration may, at any time, request that the licensor clarify or modify its national club licensing regulations to ensure that the UEFA club licensing criteria are integrated in its national club licensing regulations.

C.2.4 The licensor is free to increase or introduce additional minimum criteria in its national club licensing regulations for the purpose of entering UEFA club competitions.

C.2.5 Where introduced by the licensor in its national club licensing regulations, any increased or additional minimum criteria apply *mutatis mutandis* to entry in UEFA club competitions.

C.2.6 The licensor must confirm to UEFA that all provisions contained in the national club licensing regulations are in compliance with the applicable national law.

C.2.7 The national club licensing regulations must be approved by the competent national bodies and communicated to the licence applicants before the start of the licensing process. They cannot be amended during the licensing process, unless duly approved by UEFA.

C.2.8 The licensor is encouraged to apply a club licensing system to govern participation in its domestic competitions. For this purpose, the licensor is free to increase, decrease, or introduce additional minimum criteria in its national club licensing regulations for the purpose of granting permission to enter its domestic competitions.

Annex D Extraordinary application of the club licensing system

D.1 Principles

D.1.1 UEFA defines the necessary deadlines and the minimum criteria for the extraordinary application of the club licensing system as specified in Paragraph 17.01 and communicates them to the licensors at the latest by the 31 August of the year preceding the licence season.

D.1.2 Licensors must notify UEFA of any extraordinary application requests in writing, stating the name of the club concerned, by the deadline communicated by UEFA.

D.1.3 The licensor is responsible for submitting the criteria to the club concerned for its assessment of the extraordinary application request. They must also take immediate action with the club concerned to prepare for the extraordinary application procedure.

D.1.4 The club concerned must provide the necessary documentary proof to the licensor that will assess the club against the fixed minimum standards and forward the following documentation in one of UEFA's official languages to UEFA by the deadline communicated by the latter:

a. Written request for special permission to enter the corresponding UEFA club competition;
b. Recommendation by the licensor based on its assessment (including the dates and names of the persons having assessed the club);
c. All documentary evidence provided by the club and the licensor as requested by UEFA;
d. Any other documents requested by UEFA during the extraordinary application procedure.

D.1.5 UEFA bases its decision on the documentation received and grants special permission to enter UEFA club competitions if all the criteria are fulfilled and if the club ultimately qualifies on sporting merit. The decision will be communicated to the licensor, which must forward it to the club concerned.

D.1.6 If such a club is eliminated on sporting merit during the extraordinary application procedure, the licensor concerned has to notify UEFA immediately and the procedure is immediately terminated, without further decision. Such a terminated procedure cannot be restarted at a later stage.

D.1.7 Appeals can be lodged against final decisions made by UEFA in writing before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in accordance with the relevant provisions of the *UEFA Statutes*.

Annex E Determination of the auditor and auditor's assessment procedures

E.1 Principles

E.1.1 The auditor must be independent and is compliant with the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (see Article 58).

E.1.2 The auditor must be a member of one of the relevant IFAC member bodies. If there is no member of the IFAC within a licence applicant's territory, the licence applicant is required to use an independent auditor who is permitted by national law to carry out audit work.

E.2 Assessment procedures

E.2.1 The auditor must audit the annual financial statements. The auditor's report must:

a. include a statement confirming that the audit was conducted in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing or relevant national auditing standards or practices where these comply with, as a minimum, the requirements of the International Standards on Auditing; and
b. be submitted to the licensor together with the annual financial statements to form a basis for the licensing decision.

E.2.2 The auditor must assess supplementary information. The auditor's report of factual findings must:

a. describe the procedures prescribed by the licensor and the findings in respect of each;
b. include a statement confirming that the assessment was conducted by way of agreed-upon procedures according to ISRS 4400 or relevant national standards or practices where these comply with, as a minimum, the requirements of ISRS 4400; and
c. be submitted to the licensor together with the supplementary information to form a basis for the licensing decision.

E.2.3 The auditor must assess the profit and loss accounts as specified in Paragraph 58.05. The auditor's report of factual findings must:

a. describe the procedures prescribed by the licensor and the findings in respect of each;
b. include a statement confirming that the assessment was conducted by way of agreed-upon procedures according to ISRS 4400 or relevant national standards or practices where these comply with, as a minimum, the requirements of ISRS 4400; and
c. be submitted to the licensor together with the profit and loss account to form a basis for the licensing decision.

Annex F Disclosure requirements for the financial statements

F.1 Principles

F.1.1 Notwithstanding the requirements of national accounting practice, the International Financial Reporting Standards or the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities, the financial criteria of these regulations require licence applicants/licensees to present a specific minimum level of financial information to the licensor as set out in Article 58.

F.1.2 Each component of the financial statements must be identified clearly. The following information must be displayed prominently, and repeated where necessary within the financial statements, for a proper understanding of the information presented:

a. The name (and legal form), domicile and business address of the reporting entity/entities and any change in that information since the previous annual accounting reference date;
b. Whether the financial information covers the individual licence applicant/licensee, a group of entities or some other combination of entities, and a description of the structure and composition of any such group or combination;
c. The annual accounting reference date and the period covered by the financial information (for both current and comparative information); and
d. The presentation currency.

F.2 Balance sheet

F.2.1 The minimum disclosure requirements for balance sheet items are stated below.

Assets

i. Cash and cash equivalents
ii. Other current assets
iii. Tangible & intangible assets
iv. Accounts receivable
v. Other non-current assets
vi. Total assets (sum of items i to v)

Liabilities

vii. Bank and other loans
viii. Other accounts payable
ix. Other current liabilities
x. Other non-current liabilities
xi. Total liabilities (sum of items vii to x)

Equity

xii. Total equity

F.3 Profit and loss account

F.3.1 The minimum disclosure requirements for the profit and loss account are stated below.

Operating revenue

i. Gate receipts
ii. Total sponsorship and advertising:
    - Sponsorship and advertising relevant only for women's football teams
    - Sponsorship and advertising - combined/allocated club revenues
iii. Broadcasting rights
iv. Total commercial activities:
    - Commercial activities relevant only for women's football teams
    - Commercial activities – combined/allocated club revenues
v. UEFA solidarity and prize money
vi. Subsidies, donations, contributions and other grants received from:
    - entities within the legal group structure/reporting perimeter
    - national football bodies
    - local or national government
    - other entities
vii. Other operating income
viii. Total operating revenue (sum of items i to vii)

Operating expenses

ix. Total employee benefit expenses:
    - Employee benefit expenses –football players
    - Employee benefit expenses – technical staff
    - Employee benefit expenses – other employees
x. Total other operating expenses:
    - Property and facility costs (including depreciation, renovation, lease costs)
    - Travel expenses
    - Other matchday expenses
    - Technical/medical resources
    - Youth/academy expenses
    - Commercial/administrative expenses
    - Other non-split operating expenses
xi. Total operating expenses (excluding player registrations) (sum of items ix to x)
xii. Net result from player transfers:
    - Transfer incomes/profits
    - Transfer costs/losses
xiii. Net non-operating income/(expenses) - other
xiv. Tax income/(expenses)

xv. Dividends paid/minority interests
xvi. Total expenses (sum of items xi to xv)

F.4 Cash flow statement

F.4.1 The cash flow statement must report cash flows for the financial period, classified separately as stated below:

a. Cash flow from operating activities

Operating activities are the principal revenue-producing activities of the reporting entity and other activities that are not investing or financing activities. Therefore, they generally result from the transactions and other events that enter into the determination of net result. The minimum disclosure requirements are stated below:

i. Net cash inflow/outflow from operating activities

b. Cash flows from investing activities

Investing activities are the acquisition and disposal of long-term assets (including player registrations) and other investments not included in cash equivalents. The minimum disclosure requirements are stated below:

i. Net cash inflow/outflows from investing activities

c. Cash flows from financing activities

Financing activities are activities that result in changes in the size and composition of the contributed equity share capital and borrowings of the reporting entity. The minimum disclosure requirements are stated below:

i. Net cash inflow/outflows from financing activities

d. Other cash flows

Cash flows from interest and dividends received and paid must each be disclosed separately. Each must be disclosed in a consistent manner from period to period as either operating, investing or financing activities.

Cash flows arising from taxes on income must be disclosed separately and classified as cash flows from operating activities unless they can be appropriately and specifically identified as financing or investing activities.

F.4.2 The components of cash and cash equivalents must be disclosed and a reconciliation of the amounts in the cash flow statement presented, with the equivalent items reported in the balance sheet.

Annex G Notion of overdue payables

G.1 Principles

G.1.1 Payables are considered overdue if they are not paid according to the contractual or legal terms.

G.1.2 Payables are not considered as overdue, within the meaning of these regulations, if the licence applicant/licensee (i.e. debtor) is able to prove by the payment applicable deadline, i.e. 31 March in respect of Article 59 , Article 60, Article 61 and Article 62 that:

a. the relevant amount has been settled, i.e. either paid in full or offset against the creditor's obligations towards the debtor; or
b. the deadline for payment of the relevant amount has been deferred (referred to as "amounts deferred" in these regulations), i.e. an agreement has been concluded in writing with the creditor to extend the deadline for payment (a creditor not requesting payment of an amount does not constitute an extension of the deadline); or
c. the relevant amount is subject to a legal claim or open proceedings (referred to as "amounts disputed" in these regulations), meaning:
    i. the debtor has brought a legal claim which has been deemed admissible by the competent authority under national law or has opened proceedings with the national or international football authorities or relevant arbitration tribunal contesting liability in relation to the overdue payable, knowing that if the decision-making bodies (licensor or CFCB) consider that such claim has been brought or such proceedings have been opened for the sole purpose of avoiding the applicable deadlines set out in these regulations (i.e. in order to buy time), the amount will still be considered as an overdue payable; or
    ii. the debtor has contested to the competent authority under national law, the national or international football authorities or the relevant arbitration tribunal, a claim which has been brought or proceedings which have been opened against it by a creditor in respect of overdue payables and is able to demonstrate to the comfortable satisfaction of the relevant decision-making bodies (licensor or CFCB) that it has established reasons for contesting the claim or proceedings which have been opened, knowing that if the decision-making bodies (licensor or CFCB) consider the reasons for contesting the claim or proceedings as manifestly unfounded the amount will still be considered as an overdue payable; or
d. the settlement of the relevant amount is pending (referred to as "amounts pending" in these regulations), meaning:
    i. the debtor has requested a competent authority, in writing and in accordance with the applicable law, to extend the deadline for payment of payables to social/tax authorities (as defined by Article 61) and the competent authority has confirmed in writing that this request has been deemed admissible and still pending by 31 March (in respect of Article 61); or

ii. the debtor is able to demonstrate to the comfortable satisfaction of the relevant decision-making bodies (licensor or CFCB) that it has taken all reasonable measures to identify and pay the creditor(s) in respect of training compensation and solidarity contributions (as defined in the *FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players*).

Annex H Licensor's assessment procedures

H.1 Principles

H.1.1 The licensor defines the assessment procedures, ensuring equal treatment of all clubs applying for a licence. It assesses the documentation submitted by the clubs, considers whether it is appropriate and determines to its comfortable satisfaction whether each criterion has been met and what further information, if any, is needed for each licence to be granted.

H.1.2 The assessment processes to check compliance with the defined provisions set out in Article 11 comprise specific assessment steps that must be followed by the licensor as set out below.

H.2 Assessment of the auditor's report on the financial statements

H.2.1 In respect of the annual financial statements, the licensor must perform the following minimum assessment procedures:

a. Assess whether the reporting perimeter is appropriate for club licensing purposes;
b. Assess the information submitted to form a basis for the licensing decision;
c. Read and consider the annual financial statements and the auditor's report thereon;
d. Address the consequences of any modifications to the auditor's report (compared to the normal form of unqualified report) and/or deficiencies compared to the minimum disclosure and accounting requirements according to Annex H.2.2 below.

H.2.2 Having assessed the reporting perimeter and read the auditor's report on the annual financial statements, the licensor must assess these according to the items below:

a. If the reporting perimeter does not meet the requirements of Article 57, the licence must be refused;
b. If the auditor's report has an unqualified opinion, without any modification, this provides a satisfactory basis for granting the licence;
c. If the auditor's report has a disclaimer of opinion or an adverse opinion, the licence must be refused, unless a subsequent audit opinion without disclaimer of opinion or adverse opinion is provided (in relation to another set of financial statements for the same financial year that meet the minimum requirements) and the licensor is satisfied with the subsequent audit opinion;
d. If the auditor's report has, in respect of going concern, an emphasis of matter, a key audit matter or a qualified 'except for' opinion, the licence must be refused, unless either:
    i. a subsequent audit opinion without going concern, an emphasis of matter, a key audit matters or qualification is provided, in relation to the same financial year; or

ii. additional documentary evidence demonstrating the licence applicant's ability to continue as a going concern until at least the end of the licence season has been provided to, and assessed by, the licensor to its satisfaction;

e. If the auditor's report has, in respect of a matter other than going concern, an emphasis of matter, a key audit matter or a qualified 'except for' opinion, then the licensor must consider the implications of the modification for club licensing purposes. The licence may be refused unless additional documentary evidence is provided and assessed to the satisfaction of the licensor. The additional evidence that may be requested by the licensor will be dependent on the reason for the modification to the audit report;

f. If the auditor's report makes a reference to any situation defined in Article 56 the licence must be refused.

H.2.3 If the licence applicant provides supplementary information, the licensor must additionally assess the auditor's report on the agreed-upon procedures in respect of the supplementary information. The licence may be refused if the auditor's report is not to the satisfaction of the licensor and/or includes reference to errors and/or exceptions found.

H.3 Assessment of licensing documentation for no overdue payables

H.3.1 In respect of the "no overdue payables" criteria to football clubs, employees, and social/tax authorities, the licensor may decide:

a. to assess itself the information submitted by the licence applicant, in which case it must perform the assessment as set out in Annex H.3.2; or

b. to have independent auditors carry out the assessment procedures in accordance with ISRS 4400, in which case the licensor must assess the information submitted by the licence applicant (in particular the payables tables and corresponding supporting documents) and review the auditor's report. The licensor may carry out any additional assessment it believes necessary, including by extending the sample or requesting additional documentary evidence from the licence applicant.

H.3.2 Notwithstanding whether the assessment is carried out by the licensor or an independent auditor in respect of the "no overdue payables" criteria to football clubs, employees and social/tax authorities, the following minimum procedures must be performed and described in the licensor's or auditor's report:

a. Obtain the payables tables as at 31 March submitted by the licence applicant in respect of obligations due to be paid by 28 February (i.e. the transfers table, the employee table, the social/tax table and corresponding supporting documents);

b. Perform the necessary steps (including determination of the sample size) to assess the completeness and accuracy of the reported balances and issue a conclusion with regard to each of the procedures performed;

c. Check the completeness of any overdue balance reported by the licence applicant as at 28 February;

d. Check the settlement of any overdue payables between 28 February and 31 March; and

e. Identify any overdue balance as at 31 March.

H.3.3 In respect of the "no overdue payables" criterion in respect of UEFA and the licensor, the licensor must perform, as a minimum, the following assessment procedures:

a. Review any information received from UEFA with regard to pending overdue amounts owed by the licensor's affiliated clubs and check the settlement of any overdue balance between 28 February and 31 March; and
b. Carry out any additional assessment and request any additional documentary evidence from the licence applicant it believes necessary.

H.4 Assessment of the written representation prior to the licensing decision

H.4.1 In respect of the written representation, the licensor must read and consider the impact of any significant change that has occurred in relation to the club licensing criteria.

H.4.2 The licensor must also read and consider the information in respect of any event or condition of major economic importance, in combination with the financial statements, future financial information and any additional documentary evidence provided by the licence applicant. The licensor may decide to have this assessment carried out by an auditor.

H.4.3 The licensor must assess the club's ability to continue as a going concern until at least the end of the licence season. The licence must be refused if, based on the financial information that the licensor has assessed, in the licensor's judgement, the licence applicant may not be able to continue as a going concern until at least the end of the licence season.

H.4.4 If the licence applicant (or the registered member which has a contractual relationship with the licence applicant within the meaning of Article 14) or any parent company of the licence applicant included in the reporting perimeter is/was seeking protection or has received protection from its creditors pursuant to laws or regulations within the 12 months preceding the licence season or is receiving protection at the time of the assessment then the licence must be refused. For the avoidance of doubt the licence must also be refused even if the concerned entity is no longer receiving protection from its creditors at the moment the licensing decision is taken.

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