



No. 64/2019

TO UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS  
TO CLUBS PARTICIPATING IN UEFA COMPETITIONS

For the attention of  
the President and the General Secretary

Your reference	Your correspondence of	Our reference VOU/NPA	Date 30 September 2019
----------------	------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------

### **UEFA Concussion Awareness Campaign**

Dear Sir or Madam,

Following the recommendations of the UEFA Medical Committee, the UEFA Executive Committee decided at its meeting in Baku on 29 May to request FIFA and the IFAB to review the current concussion procedure and to initiate discussions on potential changes to the Laws of the Game (such as in terms of substitutions). The current procedure of the referee stopping the match for a minimum of three minutes is insufficient and doctors cannot always treat the player and make an accurate assessment on the pitch in that time. Equally, off the pitch on the touchline, doctors are under extreme pressure because their team is down to ten men.

While waiting for the Laws of the Game to be assessed, UEFA has decided to launch a campaign that would bring the topic of concussion into sharp focus and raise overall awareness and knowledge of the issue.

The health of players is of utmost importance and UEFA is kindly requesting all member associations and clubs to support the concussion awareness campaign by using and spreading at national level the education material which has been developed. We also strongly encourage national teams and clubs to organize a specific education session for their players, coaches, doctors and support personnel.

#### **Concussion education videos**

UEFA developed two versions of videos:

##### **1. Video for players, coaches and referees:**

The main focus of this video is three key words - RECOGNISE, REPORT and REMOVE in a case of concussion. Players should RECOGNISE a head injury when players collide.

---

Players must then REPORT the injury to the referee, who stops the game and calls for the team doctor. In the meantime, players are expected to remain calm, and not touch or move the player injured.

The team doctor will then make an on-pitch assessment and decide whether the player is fit to play. If the doctor has any doubts of unconsciousness or other signs of concussion to the player's head, he should REMOVE the player from the field. **The team doctor is the ONLY person who can take the decision for the player to stay on the pitch or be substituted.** The team doctor's decision should always be respected, even if the player or the coach believe they are fit to continue.

## 2. Video for the general public, fans and spectators

The second video aims to educate the wider public such as fans and spectators. It shows the very basic steps from the first video reminding the spectators that in case of a suspected concussion, when the team doctor decides for the player to be taken off, it is for the player's health. This decision must be supported and understood by everyone.

Both videos have been produced in English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Russian. We have also translated the script of the second video into more languages with the purpose to show them on the stadium giant screens of the UCL and UEL Match Day 2 which will be played on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2019.

### **Concussion Poster:**

UEFA has also updated its Concussion poster using the infographics of the video. As per usual, these posters should be downloaded from the UEFA TIME platform and printed at least on an A3 format and hung up in the dressing rooms, referees' rooms and medical rooms for all UEFA matches. UEFA encourages member associations and clubs to print the poster in an even larger format A2 or A1 on a thicker paper so it can be better visible and eventually plasticised to be re-used easily.

We would like to thank you in advance for your support on this very important topic.

Should you have any queries or require additional information, please contact Marc Vouillamoz ([marc.vouillamoz@uefa.ch](mailto:marc.vouillamoz@uefa.ch)).

Yours faithfully,

**U E F A**



Theodore Theodoridis  
General Secretary

---

### Enclosures

- Short videos to be downloaded here: <https://uefa.box.com/v/concussion-short-form>  
(AZ) Azerbaijani, (BG) Bulgarian, (CZ) Czech, (HR) Croatian, (DK) Danish, (NL) Dutch, (EN) English, (FR) French, (DE) German, (GR) Greek, (HU) Hungarian, (IT) Italian, (KZ) Kazakh, (NO) Norwegian, (PT) Portuguese, (RO) Romanian, (RU) Russian, (RS) Serbian, (SK) Slovakian, (ES) Spanish, (SE) Swedish, (TR) Turkish, (UA) Ukrainian
- Long video to be downloaded here: <https://uefa.box.com/v/concussion-long-form>  
(EN) English, (FR) French, (DE) German, (IT) Italian, (PT) Portuguese, (RU) Russian, (ES) Spanish
- Poster to be downloaded directly from TIME

### cc (with enclosures)

- UEFA Executive Committee
- UEFA Medical Committee members
- European members of the FIFA Council
- FIFA