



Specific operational provisions and guidelines applicable to UEFA Futsal matches v7

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1. Preamble

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 1 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

The UEFA Return to Play Protocol (the UEFA Protocol) sets out the framework of medical, sanitary and hygiene procedures and operations protocols to be applied when staging UEFA competition matches. Due to differences in the preparation and delivery of UEFA futsal matches the provisions included in this document shall apply in addition to the UEFA Protocol.

For the purpose of this document, the use of the term “tournament” refers to both mini-tournaments and final tournaments.

2. Objectives

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 2 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

The aim of this document is to complement the UEFA Protocol with specific operational provisions and dedicated testing requirements applicable to UEFA futsal competition matches.

3. Scope of application

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 3 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

These specific provisions apply to all UEFA futsal matches cited in Objectives above, until further notice, in conjunction with the applicable relevant competent national/local authority legislation and requirements.

Non-compliance with the obligations set out in the UEFA Protocol and these specific provisions may lead to disciplinary measures in accordance with the *UEFA Disciplinary Regulations*.

6. UEFA Testing requirements

6.5. Tournament testing requirements

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 6.5 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

All members of Group 1, 2 and 3 of the teams participating in the relevant tournament must follow the requirements set out under section 6.4 of the UEFA Protocol at each relevant match of a tournament.

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For tournaments, the reciprocal testing requirement towards the whole home team delegation applies only if **all** visiting teams are required to undergo a specific test requested by the relevant authorities for the purposes of entering a country.

6.6 Zone 1 venue entrance requirements

6.6.1 Group 1

The following text replaces the corresponding text of Section 6.6.1 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

Each team doctor must complete and sign the Team Declaration Form (Annex B of the UEFA Protocol) confirming that all members of the delegation are free of COVID-19 symptoms, and that no players or team staff testing positive for COVID-19 are accessing Zone 1 or participating in the match. This declaration form must be submitted via email to the UMD by 10:30am local time each matchday, accompanied by a list of the names of the members of the delegation the declaration applies to.

6.7 Match/Tournament COVID-19 support

The following text is an addition to Section 6 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

Before each match/tournament, the host must announce a point of contact with the authorities that teams must liaise with in case of positive SARS-CoV-2 tests.

Any person who displays any symptoms of COVID-19 must immediately be isolated from the rest of the team delegation and must undergo SARS-CoV-2 RNA testing including PCR (polymerase chain reaction)-based tests or any equivalent clinically validated tests based on nucleic acid amplification technology (PCR Test) or Laboratory-based SARS-CoV-2 antigen test (Antigen Test). Any person returning a positive test result must not be permitted to participate in the match, to enter the hall and/or travel with the team. The relevant national/local legislation is applicable with regards to the right to return to participate of a positive tested person. The team doctor is solely responsible for ensuring respect of these rules and any testing costs must be borne by the relevant team.

In case of a positive test from someone in Group 1 during a tournament, the team MLO must immediately inform the identified contact person, and the UMD, of this test result.

In case of a positive test result from someone in Group 2 or Group 3 during a tournament, the person concerned must contact the nominated contact person within the authorities as communicated before the start of the tournament. Members of Group 2 must additionally inform the UMD. The next steps in all cases will then be determined in conjunction with the relevant national/local authorities.

UEFA PROTOCOL: OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES

11. Hotels

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 1 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

Ideally, an exclusive hotel, or alternatively an exclusive floor or wing of a hotel, should be reserved for the sole use of each visiting/participating team during their stay. When selecting tournaments hotel(s) and allocating teams to hotel(s), hosts must consider the hotel(s)' ability to:

- implement all applicable principles set out in this document and the UEFA Protocol;
- segregate players/technical staff from different teams.

The visiting team (single matches) or the host (tournaments) must make arrangements to prevent any close contact between the teams and other guests or hotel staff. This should include:

- where possible, one private individual dining area for each team;
- if the above is not possible, one large private dining area divided into separate areas for each team.

Food should be served by the team's own staff and/or as few hotel staff as possible, with food placed on a table and collected by the players/coaches/trainers. Where buffets are served, one station per team should be prepared. No clean-up is to take place until the entire delegation has left the dining areas so that the smallest number of hotel staff is present in the dining room during meals.

13. Match Venue Operations

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 13 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

As a specificity for futsal mini-tournaments, hosts sometimes choose to schedule two matches on the same day in the same hall (double-header matches). In this case, when setting kick-off times for double-header matches using the same dressing rooms and technical facilities, hosts must ensure there is enough time between matches so that Zone 1 can be thoroughly cleaned after teams have left after the first match, and before teams arrive for the second match.

13.1.2 Face masks and hand sanitiser

Face masks of FFP-2 quality (or higher), covering the mouth and nose, must be worn at all times by everyone in Zone 1 of the hall. For any other groups in close contact with the teams, they will also need to wear masks. All persons are responsible for equipping themselves with their own face masks.

The only exception in Zone 1 is during the match for the head coach and substitutes who do not need to wear a mask on the team bench.

Everyone else in the hall no longer needs to wear a mask unless it is required by the national authorities.

13.6.1 Dressing rooms

Dressing room areas for the teams and technical staff must optimise physical distancing and air circulation. Depending on the actual size of the dressing room, additional nearby rooms or spaces may therefore also

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have to be used. Ideally, a room or area should be set aside for the team's technical and support staff as well as for the equipment that is separate from the player's changing areas.

If additional rooms or alternative solutions cannot be found at the match venue to respect the physical distancing and air circulation, the teams and referees' team are strongly encouraged to:

- Prepare the match tactics at the hotel
- Arrive at the arena already wearing the playing attire
- Use of the dressing rooms in alternance without going over the maximum capacity
- After the match, if possible, take the shower in the hotel unless this poses a risk to the player's health due to the climatic and temperature conditions

Cleaning of dressing rooms, team benches and technical areas

The dressing room areas, team access routes (corridors, door handles, handrails, etc.) team benches and technical seats (including any additional seating used to maintain physical distancing) must be thoroughly cleaned before the team arrives on MD-1 (if applicable), between the team training sessions on MD-1 (if applicable) and prior to the match. Once the dressing rooms have been cleaned prior to team arrivals, no one may enter until the teams arrive other than tested team support staff, e.g. team kit staff.

For double-headers (see Section 13 intro above), Zone 1 must be cleaned again immediately after T2 of the first match.

13.6.2 Team benches and additional seats

All seats on the team benches may be used in full. Additional seats in the tribune may nonetheless still need to be identified. For all such seating reserved in the tribunes for team delegations no physical distancing is necessary unless required by the authorities, however a 1.5m buffer must be maintained between this team delegation seating and any public/spectator seating.

Teams are strongly recommended not to switch sides following the initial coin toss.

13.6.4 Player warm-up areas

Substitutes should warm up behind their team bench if space permits or next to the team bench towards the goal lines.

14 Match operations

14.1 Match Venue/Zone tours and organisational meeting

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 14 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

Single matches

As per UEFA Protocol

Tournaments

Before the first match of a tournament, the host must organise a tour of the hall for the UMD, the match/venue manager and the HO. On request of the visiting team(s), the host may also organise a Zone 1 tour for them.

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The number of people attending the tournament organisational meeting must be limited. The UMD, the main contacts of the participating teams, the teams' PCOs and the host's HOs must attend the meeting. All other participants must attend remotely in a videoconference organised by the host.

14.2 Official reception and education seminars

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 14 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

The hosting of official events is not mandatory. For any such event the number of participants should be agreed between the teams in advance and due consideration should be given to use of masks and physical distancing, especially for indoor events. In addition, they must adhere strictly to the rules and requirements of the national health authorities.

No one who is either part of, or in close contact with the team sporting delegation (players, coaches etc) should attend these events.

Educational seminars, such as match-fixing prevention presentations, may be held. Teams must ensure all players have access to and participate in these sessions.

14.3 Ball Children and Moppers

The following text complements the corresponding text of Section 14 of the UEFA Protocol as applicable from time to time.

Ball children

The home team (single matches) or host (tournaments) decides the ball recovery and replacement system to be used for the matches based on the match venue configuration. Ball children must in principle be positioned in Zone 2 around the pitch behind the pitch perimeter advertising boards.

Ball children must:

- Wear masks
- Keep the ball on the ground at their feet until needed
- Maintain at least a 1.5m distance from the players at all times

When ball children are deployed, it is recommended that whenever possible they are vaccinated. Additionally, the HO must find out whether parental consent is required for ball children assignments, and parents must also be informed of the entrance checks applicable to the ball children.

Moppers

Moppers will be appointed by the host and positioned on the side of the team benches, on each of the corners. They will be requested to wear a mask at all times. It is recommended that whenever possible they are vaccinated and the HO must find out whether parental consent is required if children are appointed. Referees should be briefed to keep social distancing between moppers and players.



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