



**UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play** 

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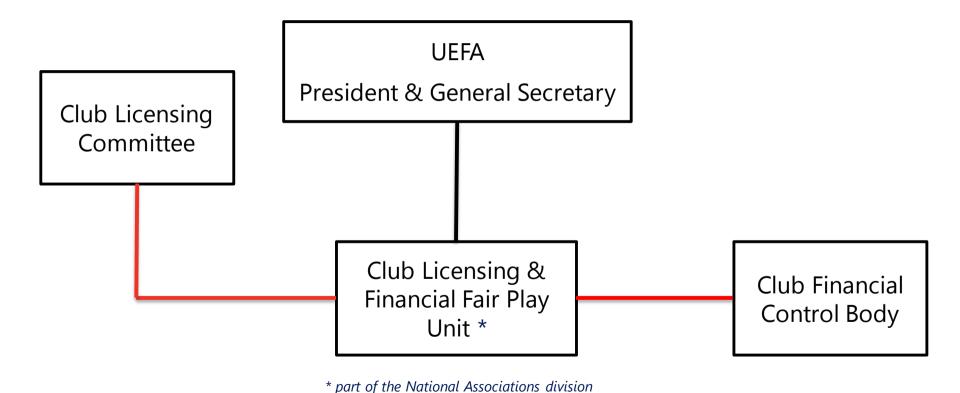


#### Agenda

- Update on Club Licensing & Financial Fair Play:
  - Relevant bodies of UEFA;
  - Overview of regulatory changes;
  - Club Licensing and Club Monitoring results;
  - UEFA Compliance and Investigation activities.
- UEFA Club Licensing and FFP Regulations, Edition 2015
- Recent publications (including some Croatia specific benchmarking data)

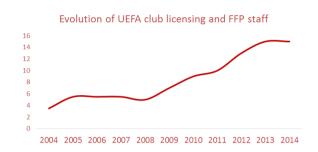






#### **UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Unit**

A dedicated team of 15 people, from within UEFA's National Associations Division assist the member associations in implementing the club licensing system through:



- Training and education (annual & regional workshops);
- Assistance visits, meetings with clubs;
- Publishing guidance documents;
- Developing the regulations;
- Benchmarking.



#### **UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Unit**

Assistance / Research Team

Licensor guidance & Management of core process

Development of the system and domestic licensing

**Benchmarking & Research** 

FFP Support Team

FFP technical guidance

Development of **CL/FFP IT solution** 

CL/FFP IT solution helpline & training sessions

Compliance Team

**CL & FFP Compliance audits** 

Analysis & monitoring of FFP requirements

**Coordination of CFCB-IC** 

#### Club Licensing Committee: 2015-2019 mandate



Chairman: David Gill (England)

**Deputy Chairman:** Michael van Praag (Netherlands) new

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman: Jorge Pérez Arias (Spain)
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairwoman: Ivanĉica Sudac (Croatia)

**3rd Vice-Chairman:** Thomas Christensen (Denmark)

Members: Roman Babaev (Russia) new

**Bjarne Berntsen** (Norway)

**Volodymyr Chorno-Ivanov** (Ukraine)

Ludvik Georgsson (Iceland)
Jacques Lagnier (France)

**Eamon Naughton** (Republic of Ireland) *new* 

Nick Nicolaou (Cyprus) *new* Kieran O'Connor (Wales) *new* 

**Peter Peters** (Germany)

Nenad Santrač (Serbia) new
Francesca Sanzone (Italy) new

Francesca Sanzone (Italy) new

Heinrich Schifferle (Switzerland) new Johan Timmermans (Belgium) new

Milan Vojtek (Slovakia) new

Aleš Zavrl (Slovenia)

#### **UEFA Club Licensing Committee**

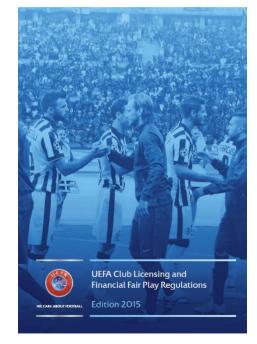
- Monitors the implementation and achievement of the objectives of the UEFA club licensing system;
- Draws up recommendations regarding possible amendments to the UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations, including the review of current criteria and the creation of new criteria for clubs;
- Monitors the development of the different licensor-related processes (assessment process, decision-making process);
- Monitors the quality management system for licensors assessed by an external UEFA partner;
- Advises on club licensing and club monitoring matters.

# UEFA Club Licensing and FFP Regulations - Edition 2015

The 2015 edition of the *UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations* were approved by the

UEFA Executive Committee in Prague
in June 2015





Key amendments document circulated with the new regulations.



#### **UEFA Club Financial Control Body**

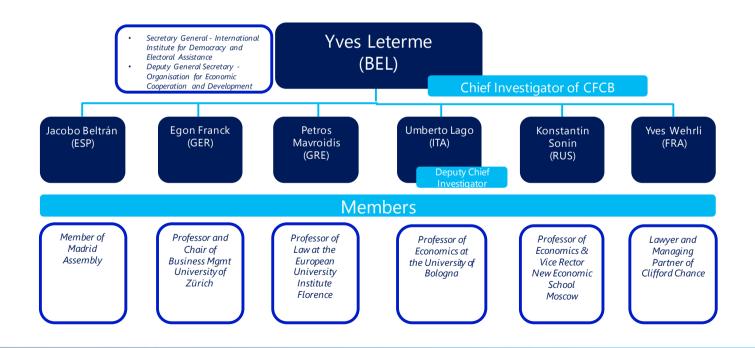
#### Organ for the Administration of Justice

As from 1 June 2012 Club Financial Control Body (former Panel) is an Organ for the Administration of Justice

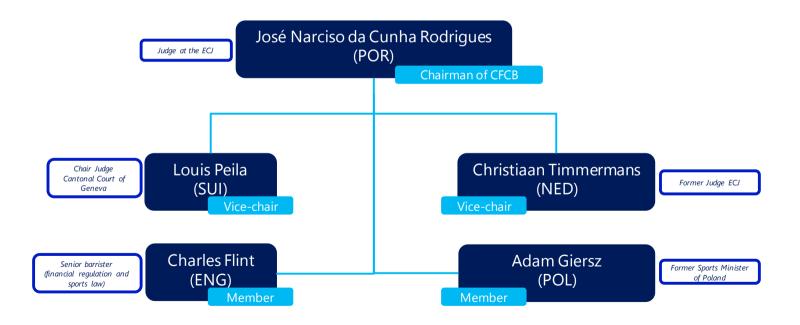
#### Jurisdiction of the CFCB

- 1. Determine whether club licensing system has been correctly applied;
- 2. Determine whether financial fair play requirements have been fulfilled;
- 3. Decide on cases related to the club's eligibility for UEFA club competitions (licence and integrity rules);
- 4. Impose disciplinary measures in case of breaches.

UEFA CFCB Investigatory chamber



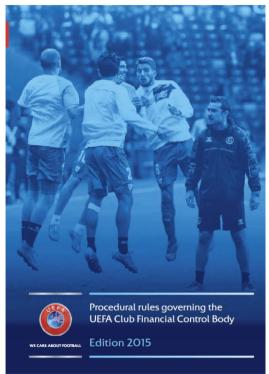
UEFA CFCB Adjudicatory chamber



# Procedural rules governing the UEFA CFCB - Edition 2015

 A new edition of the Procedural rules governing the UEFA Club Financial Control Body were approved by the UEFA Executive Committee in Malta in September 2015.





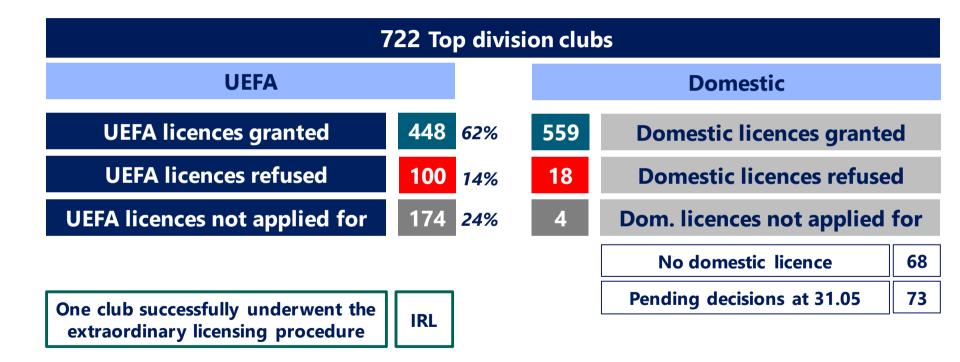
# Procedural rules governing the UEFA CFCB - Edition 2015

#### **AMENDMENTS:**

- The CFCB chief investigator can now review the terms of settlement agreements in cases where a club has met its obligations ahead of time (new Article 15, paragraph 3)
- If a seat on the CFCB becomes vacant, the UEFA ExCo may appoint a replacement for the remaining term of office (new Article 5, paragraph 3)
  - Already applied with the nomination of Yves Leterme as CFCB chief investigator (in replacement of Jean-Luc Dehaene)
- Possibility for the UEFA ExCo to appoint a CFCB deputy chief investigator (new Article 4, paragraphs 3b and 5)
  - Already been used in nominating Umberto Lago as CFCB deputy chief investigator

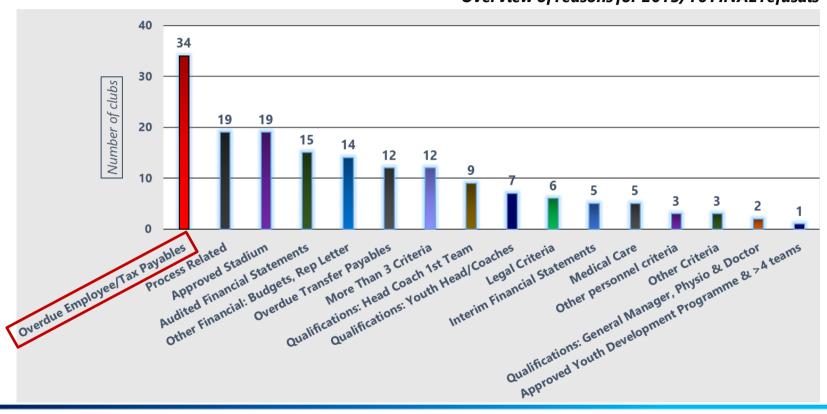


#### Summary of 2015 licensing decisions



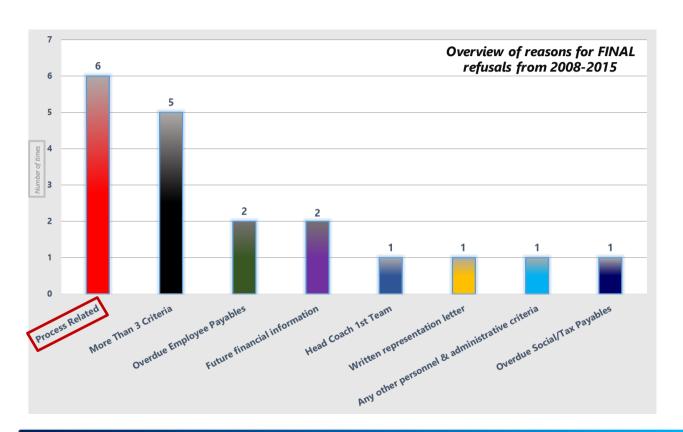
#### Summary of 2015 licensing decisions

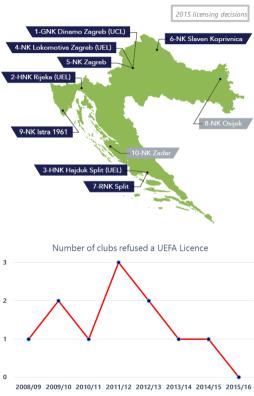




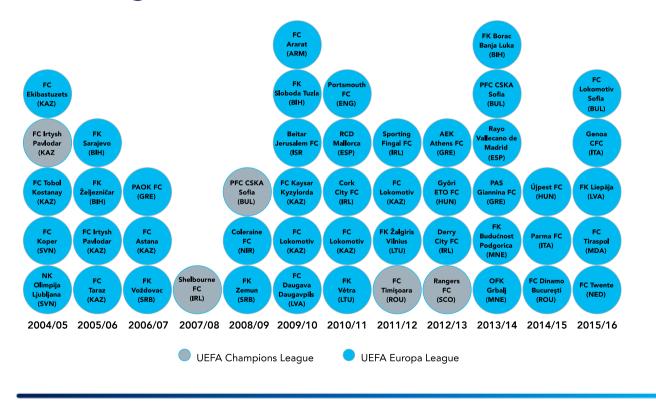
#### Most common reasons for UEFA Licence refusals in Croatia







# Clubs not admitted to UEFA club competitions for club licensing reasons



**49** 

different occasions when clubs have not been admitted relate to 46 different clubs

different countries have had sportingly qualified clubs not admitted

# Sportingly qualified clubs without a UEFA licence

CLUB	NA	SPORTING RESULT	LICENSING DECISION
FC Lokomotiv Sofia	BUL	Finished 3 <sup>rd</sup> in the league.	Licence refused due to the existence of overdue payables towards employees and social/tax authorities.
Genoa CFC	ITA	Finished 6 <sup>th</sup> in the league.	Licence refused as the club did not finish the process.
FK Liepāja	LVA	Finished 4 <sup>th</sup> in the league.	Licence refused due to the previous legal entity SK Liepājas Metalurgs being involved in insolvency proceedings.
FC Tiraspol	MDA	Finished 4 <sup>th</sup> in the league.	Licence initially granted but it was subsequently withdrawn due to the club being dissolved at the end of the season.
FC Twente	NED	Finished 10 <sup>th</sup> in the league but qualified for the 2015–16 UEFA Europa League via the UEFA fair play rankings.	Did not receive the licence as it formally applied for the UEFA licence but did not finish the process.

# Clubs which could have qualified but were not granted a UEFA licence

CLUB	NA	SPORTING RESULT	LICENSING DECISION
FC Daugava	LVA	Finished 5 <sup>th</sup> in the league.  Could have qualified due to FK Liepāja not receiving the licence.	Did not apply for a UEFA licence.
CS U Craiova	ROU	Finished 5 <sup>th</sup> in the league.  Could have qualified due to FC CFR 1907  Cluj being excluded by CFCB	Non-fulfilment of the three-year rule.
FC Petrolul Ploiești	ROU	Finished 6 <sup>th</sup> in the league.  Could have qualified due to FC CFR 1907  Cluj being excluded by CFCB	Did not apply for a UEFA licence due to being involved in insolvency proceedings.
FC Dinamo București	ROU	Finished 7 <sup>th</sup> in the league.  Could have qualified due to FC CFR 1907  Cluj being excluded by CFCB	Did not apply for a UEFA licence due to being involved in insolvency proceedings.

# 2013/14 licensing example – importance of application

Sportingly qualified clubs from 3 licensors did not receive a UEFA licence:

ВІН			ESP	MNE		
				N2 - UEL Q1	FK Budućnost Podgorica	
N3 - UEL Q1	FC Borac Banja Luca			N3 - UEL Q1	FK Čelik Nikšić	
N4	NK Čelik Zenica			N4	FK Grbalj	
N5	FK Olimpik Sarajevo			N5	FK Rudar Pljevlja	
N6 - UEL Q2	NK Široki Brijeg	N6 - UEL PO	Málaga CF	N6	OFK Petrovac	
N7	FK Slavija Sarajevo	N7 - UEL PO	Real Betis Balompié	N7	FK Lovćen	
N8	FK Leotar	N8 Rayo Vallecano de Madrid		N8	FK Mogren	
N9 - UEL Q1	HŠK Zrinjski	N9 - UEL Q3 Sevilla FC		N9	FK Zeta	
				N10 - UEL Q1	FK Mladost	

• 2 relegated cubs (ISR, MKD) won the domestic cup and receive a UEFA licence

# 2014/15 monitoring of overdue payables (FFP)



Total	club	s mo	nitor	ec

Number of clubs reviewed again in Sept.

Number of clubs referred to the CFCB-AC

Club	NA	Decision
FK Ekranas	LTU	Excluded from next UEFA competition it would qualify for in next two seasons + €15′000 fine
Honka	FIN	Excluded from next UEFA competition it would qualify for in next three seasons + €20'000 fine
CFR 1907 Cluj	ROU	Excluded from 2015/16 season + €150'000 fine
FC Astra Giurgiu	ROU	€100'000 fine
Bursaspor	TUR	Excluded from next UEFA competition it would qualify for in next four seasons

# 2015/16 monitoring of overdue payables (FFP)



Total clubs monitored

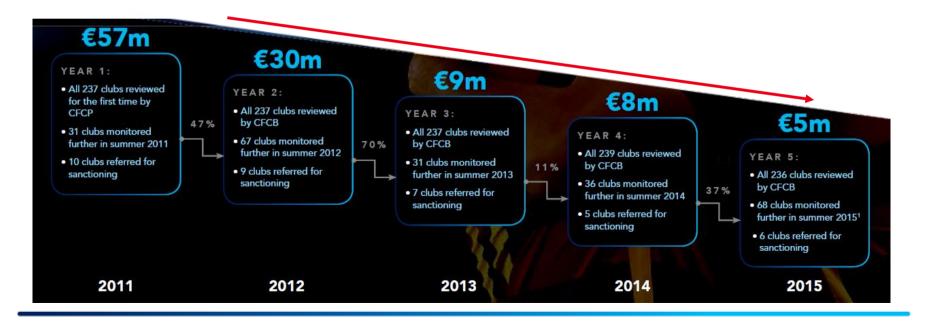
Number of clubs reviewed again in Sept.

Number of clubs referred to the CFCB-AC

Club	NA	Decision
Bakı PİK	AZE	Excluded from next UEFA competition it would qualify for in next three seasons (unless OP paid by 31.01.16) + €50′000 fine
SC Braga	POR	€20′000 fine
ASA Târgu-Mures	ROU	Excluded from next UEFA competition it would qualify for in next three seasons (unless OP paid by 31.01.16) + €50′000 fine
FC Astra Giurgiu	ROU	Excluded from next UEFA competition it would qualify for in next three seasons (unless OP paid by 31.01.16) + €80′000 fine
FC Botoşani	ROU	€15′000 fine
FC Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk	UKR	Excluded from next UEFA competition it would qualify for in next three seasons (unless OP paid by 31.01.16) + €100′000 fine

#### Significant reduction in overdue payables

Since the introduction of FFP there has been a significant reduction in the amount overdue payables from €57m in 2011 to €5m in 2015.



#### 2014/15 break-even monitoring activities (FFP)

Number of clubs requested to submit BE information

106

clubs exempt

**136** clubs subject to b/e rule

clubs monitored throughout the season

Number of investigations opened

19

Number of settlement agreements concluded

14

Number of clubs referred to the adjudicatory body

#### 2014/15 CFCB break-even decisions

#### **Settlement agreements concluded with 14 clubs:**

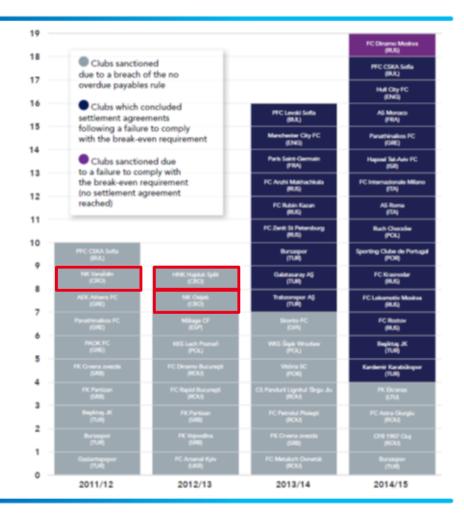
	CSKA Sofia	BUL		Ruch Chorzow	POL
1904	Hull City	ENG		Sporting Lisbon	POR
	AS Monaco	FRA		Lokomotiv Moskva	RUS
ISBS.	Panathinaikos	GRE		FC Krasnodar	RUS
	Hapoel Tel Aviv	ISR	A PACING	FC Rostov	RUS
ROMA 1927	AS Roma	ITA	BOK BOS	Beşiktaş	TUR
	FC Internazionale Milano	ITA	LABORITO POLITICA PILITICA POLITICA POLITICA POLITICA POLITICA POLITICA POLITICA POL	Kardemir Karabükspor	TUR

#### First club excluded from UEFA competition due to breach of break-even rule:



# Decisions taken for breaches of the financial fair play requirements

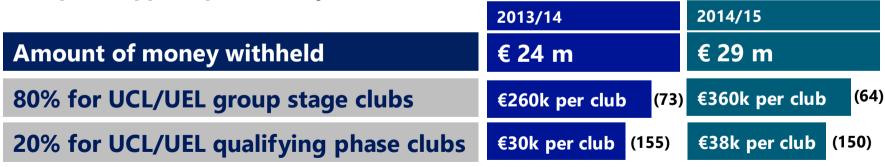
- Breaches of the enhanced overdues payable rule have resulted in fines and suspended or direct exclusions from UEFA club competitions;
- Breaches of the break-even requirement the CFCB can either sanction the club or enter into a settlement agreement.



#### Distribution of prize money withheld due to FFP non-compliance

The distribution mechanism for the prize money unconditionally withheld due to non-compliance with FFP rules means that there is an added incentive for clubs to obtain a licence and be in a position to participate to UEFA club competitions.

#### **Example of approx. prize money distributed:**



For clubs taking part to European competitions that were not subject to FFP disciplinary measures or were not under a settlement agreement regime during the concerned season



In order to ensure the credibility of the club licensing system, it is vital that compliance and investigation activities are performed in order to ensure:

- licences have been granted correctly;
- licensees continue to fulfil the licensing criteria after the licence has been granted;
- licensees fulfil the club monitoring requirements.

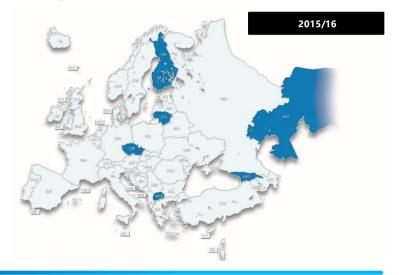
#### TASKS OF THE CFCB INVESTIGATORY CHAMBER:

- Ensuring licensors/clubs complied with the club licensing criteria;
- Deciding on cases relating to clubs' eligibility to participate in UEFA club competitions;
- Monitoring the absence of overdue payables of the clubs participating in UEFA club competitions;
- Monitoring the fulfilment of the break-even requirement by the clubs participating in UEFA club competitions;
- Assessing whether clubs having signed settlement agreements with the CFCB-IC complied the agreed financial targets and sporting restrictions for UEFA club competitions.

# **CLS Audits: Ensuring compliance** with club licensing criteria



 In the last three seasons a total of 18 NAs have been subject to a compliance audit on club licensing



FFP Audits: Ensuring compliance with the OP criteria

Over the last 5 seasons (2011/12 to 2015/16),

12 audits on overdue payables concerning
 8 National Associations



# **UEFA** Compliance and Investigation activities

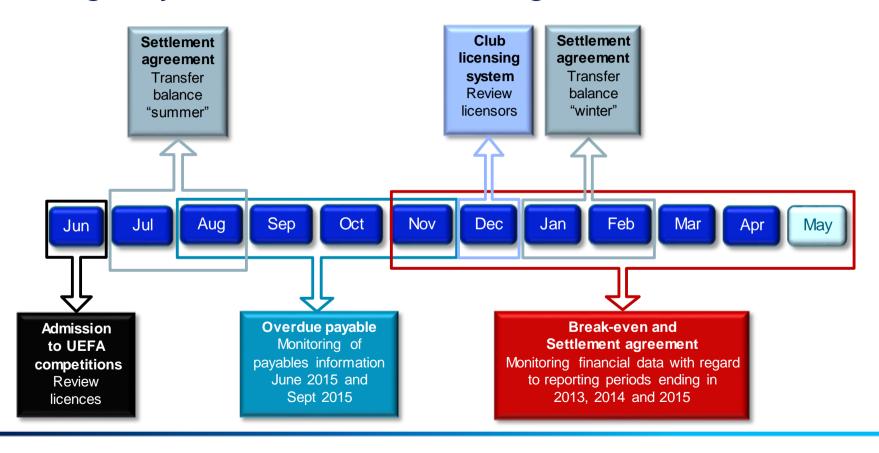
# FFP Audits: Ensuring compliance with B/E requirement

Since the introduction of the **Break-Even Monitoring** in 2013/14 until 2015/16 (over 3 seasons):

- 46 audits on Break-Even at clubs from 17 National Associations.
- 9 Fair-Value Assessments for clubs from 6 NAs completed



# Investigatory Chamber activities during 2015/16 season



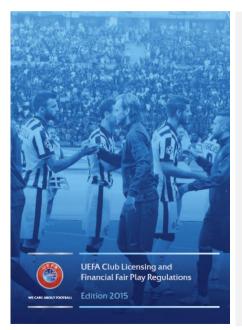


Regulations, Edition 2015

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# UEFA Club Licensing and FFP Regulations - Edition 2015

2015 edition of the *UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations* approved by the UEFA Executive Committee in June 2015



In accordance with Article 5(3) of the CL&FFP, **the club licensing requirements** of the new UEFA regulations have been integrated into the 2015 edition of the HNS Club Licensing Regulations

# The consultation process

- Review and consultation process began in September 2013 and concluded in May 2015;
- Work performed under the chair and supervision of the Club Licensing Committee (CLC);
- Review and consultation process split in two phases:
  - 1st phase review of the club licensing section;
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> phase review of the club monitoring (FFP) section;
- Strong cooperation with all stakeholders over the full period:
  - Multiple meetings and consultations.



# Composition of the decision-making bodies

## **Article 7(7) – Decision-making bodies**

- Members of both the FIB and AB <u>must not</u> belong simultaneously to:
  - the **executive body** of the UEFA member association or its affiliated league;
  - the management personnel of an affiliated club.
- Aimed at further strengthening the independence of the members of the club licensing decision-making bodies.

# **Education programme on integrity**

### **Article 17(2) – Youth development programme**

- The youth development programme must now include a education programme on integrity.
- Aimed at raising awareness among youth players of the growing problem of betting and match-fixing.



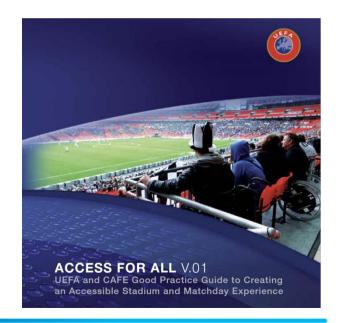


# New personnel and administrative criterion

# **Article 35bis – Disability access officer** New



- Licence applicants are now required to appoint a DAO to support the provision of inclusive accessible facilities and services for disabled supporters;
- Aimed at raising awareness and improving access/matchday experience for disabled spectators.



# Strengthening of youth coaches criteria

### **Article 39 – Youth Coaches** (in conjunction with Article 16(1))

- Article 39 has now been included in the mandatory criteria that must be fulfilled by clubs in order for them to be granted a licence to enter the UEFA club competitions.
- Aimed at further strengthening the youth coaches criterion, giving continued priority to the training and care of youth players.

# Increased transparency & better defined reporting perimeter

Article 46 – Legal group structure and ultimate controlling party Article 46bis – Reporting entity/entities and reporting perimeter

- Articles 46 and 46bis have been reworded in order to better define the legal group structure and the reporting perimeter.
- Aimed at increasing transparency and providing greater clarity.

# Key club licensing amendments (Annexes)

### **Assessment of future financial information**

### Annex V(B)(4) – Auditor's assessment procedures

 Annex V(B)(4) has been updated in order to foresee the assessment of future financial information, in accordance with the International Standards for Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3400, if the assessment is performed by an auditor.

# Key club licensing amendments (Annexes)

# Addition to the notion of 'overdue payables'

### Annex VIII (2)(e) – Auditor's assessment procedures

- If a licence applicant is able to demonstrate that it has taken all reasonable measures to identify and pay the creditor club(s) in respect of training compensation/solidarity contribution the payables will not be considered as overdue;
- Aimed at safeguarding clubs which have done everything possible to settle amounts but through no fault of their own have not been able to pay training compensation/solidarity contribution.



# Key changes to the club monitoring (FFP) requirements (1)

- Strengthening of overdue payables criteria
- Deduction of expenses related to youth and women's football
- New adjustment for leasehold improvement
- New adjustment for credit arising from procedures providing protection from creditors
- New deadlines for contributions
- Acceptable deviation: €30M (reduced from €45M)

# Key changes to the club monitoring (FFP) requirements (2)

- The assessment of fair-value for related party sponsorship transactions
- The addition of a mitigating factor for clubs operating in "structurally inefficient" markets
- The introduction of voluntary agreements





# Recent publications (including some Croatia specific benchmarking data)

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# Recent Club Licensing and FFP Publications



Two recent publications on club licensing and FFP matters illustrate the positive impact the system has had, as well as how the system is implemented across Europe.





### €140m

In 2014 Manchester United FC reported the highest club operating profit in history



## Reduced operating and bottom-line losses outside the top 15 leagues

Operating profitability outside the top 15 leagues:\*

While overall Europe-wide operating profits have increased and net losses decreased, the results vary across Europe. At operating profit level, 12 of the 38 non-top leagues generated aggregate underlying operating profits, a minority but nonetheless an increase on the 7 leagues in 2013 and 4 leagues in 2011.

On an aggregate basis across the 481 clubs in the non-top 15 leagues, a negative operating margin of -14.8% was generated in 2014, a slight worsening on the -14.0% in 2013 but an improvement on the operating loss margins of more than -20% reported each year between 2010 and 2011.

What is evident from the comparison of top 15 leagues with the other leagues is the more common reliance on benefactors, transfer profits and UEFA club competition prize money, which can lead to greater fluctuations in financial performance from year to year.

Bottom-line net profitability outside the top 15 leagues:\*

At net profit level, after transfer, non-operating, financing, tax and divesting activities have been included, 11 of the 38 other leagues reported aggregate profits, with Slovenia (+22%) and Sweden (+13%) leading the way, both bolstered by UEFA Champions League group stage prize money for one of their clubs.

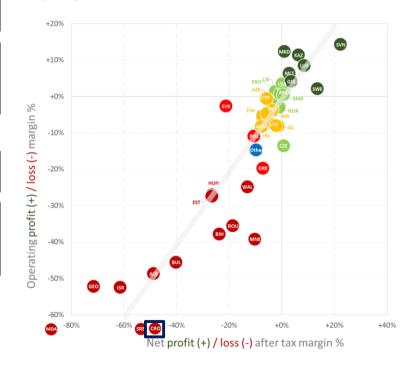
Less successful in balancing their books in 2014 were the clubs of 11 countries that reported net loss margins of more than 20%, in particular Croatia, Georgia, Israel, Moldova and Serbia, where the loss margins exceeded 50%. Clubs in these countries spent more than €3 for every €2 of income.

On an aggregate basis across the 481 clubs in these non-top leagues, a negative bottom-line loss margin of just under 10% was generated in 2014. While on the face of it this loss margin is a cause for concern, it nonetheless continues a trend of reducing losses in Europe's less wealthy leagues.

Evolution of the bottom-line net loss margin outside the top 15 leagues:\*

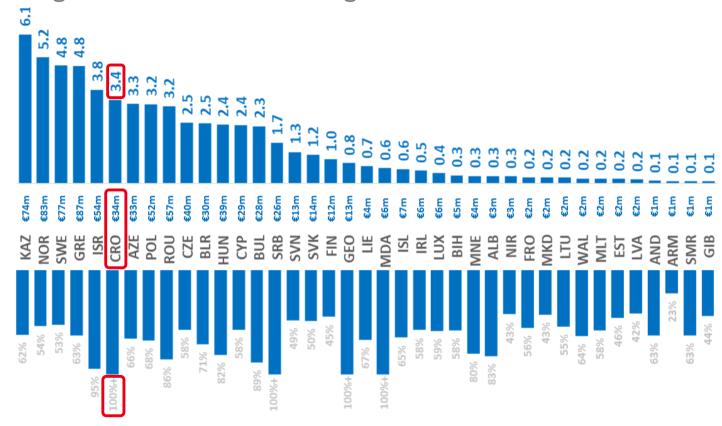


Profit (operating and net) margins outside the top 15 leagues:\*



<sup>\*</sup> For the analysis of profitability, the leagues have been split into two groups (top 15 and the rest) based on average dub revenue. The net margins have been stated after excluding gains from debt write-offs (Scotland) and unrealised gains and losses from foreign exchange (Russian, Turkey and Ukraine).

### Wage levels and trends: Leagues 16-54



<sup>\*</sup> As per the previous analyses, 'club wages' and 'wage bills' refer to all employee costs (including the club's share of social taxes) and all employees (technical, administrative and players).



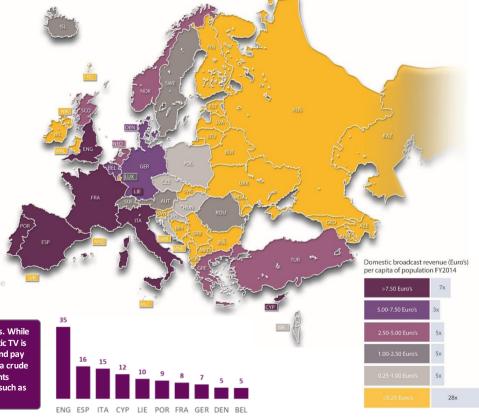
10 **→** 19

Fhe number of clubs with a €100m+ wage bil almost doubled between 2009 and 2014

### Broadcast revenue per capita

Future trends:

A massive additional 65-70% uplift in domestic English Premier League live rights has been announced from the 2016/17 season, with the international rights process ongoing in 2015 but expected to also see large uplifts. Together, English clubs could expect an uplift in the region of €50-60m each from 2016/17. Elsewhere, the Spanish league (LFP) anticipates a tripling of international rights for La Liga to €600m per season from 2015/16, which would be an increase equivalent to an average €19m per club. The multiple of largest club domestic broadcast revenues to average broadcast revenues should also decrease with the collective selling of rights taking effect. While FY14 was the first year of a four-year cycle in Germany, TV rights will increase gradually during the deal, which means an 8-10% increase in each of the next two seasons can be anticipated. In Italy we expect clubs to receive a 10-15% average increase in FY16, with 2-3% increases the following two seasons. In France the next cycle will commence in 2016/17 and it is too early to make predictions. In Turkey the current rights period was extended and should lead to a 40% increase in domestic rights in 2014/15.

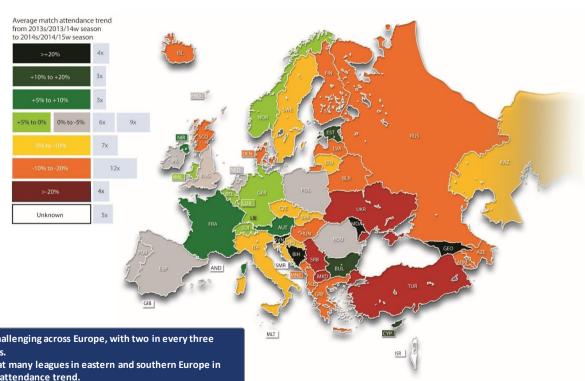


The majority of broadcast rights for club football come from local domestic TV rights. While the number of interested viewers is important, the revenue generated from domestic TV is strongly influenced by the market structure within the local TV market (free to air and pay TV, and number and level of competitors). The map indicating revenue per capita is a crude measure but highlights the differences across Europe, with total Premier League rights equivalent to €35 per capita, compared with higher level leagues in eastern Europe such as Ukraine and Russia. where TV rights are equivalent to less than €0.25 per capita.

### Attendance levels under pressure

Top-division league attendances fell below 100 million to the lowest level for a decade.

The decrease of just under 3.5 million spectators (3.5%) compared with the previous year was driven by decreases in Turkey (1.2m), Italy (500,000), Greece, Russia, Scotland and Serbia (all between 200,000 and 350,000).



Economic conditions remain challenging across Europe, with two in every three leagues reporting lower crowds.

This map highlights the fact that many leagues in eastern and southern Europe in particular have had a negative attendance trend.



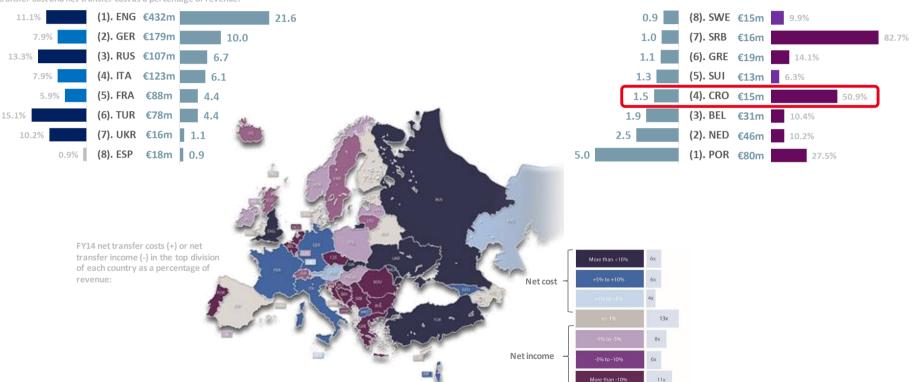
<sup>\*</sup> The average five year spend of the top clubs in each association is based on the 2015 rankings, which will be used for the 2016/17 UEFA competition access list and is based on performances across the 2010/11 to 2014/15 seasons.

The top leagues by average net transfer income (€m), aggregate league net

transfer income and net transfer income as a percentage of revenue:

### Relative size of net transfer costs and incomes

The top leagues by average net transfer  $\underline{\cos t}$  ( $\varepsilon m$ ), aggregate league net transfer  $\cot$  and net transfer  $\cot$  a percentage of revenue:



### Domestic title winners and winning streaks in the last ten years

Number of different clubs to have won their domestic championship in the last ten years:

IRL



In the last ten seasons, the title holder has been least predictable in the Republic of Ireland and Sweden, where there have been eight and seven different winners respectively.

7 SWE

BIH, FRA, GEO, MKD, NOR, SMR

ARM, AZE, CYP, ISL, ISR, MNE, POL, ROU, SVK

ALB, AND, AUT, BEL, BUL, CZE, DEN, EST, FIN, FRO, GER, HUN, KAZ, LVA, MLT, NED, NIR, SVN, TUR, WAL

ENG, ESP, ITA, LTU, LUX, MDA, RUS

BLR, GRE, POR, SCO, SRB, SUI, UKR

GIB, CRO



In total, there were 25 repeat domestic winners in the most recent two championships, with a new champion club in 28 leagues.

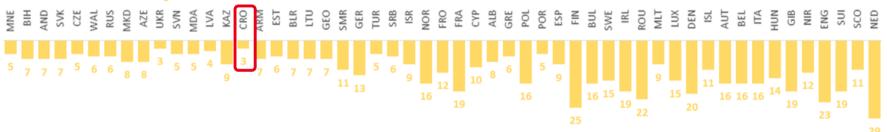
Lincoln FC have won the Gibraltan domestic championship for the last 12 years, with GNK Dinamo Zagreb in Croatia currently on a tenyear winning streak. Clubs in eight leagues have won five or more domestic titles in a row.

In the last ten seasons, the title has been shared by three or fewer clubs in 16 of the 53 leagues, including many of the higher profile leagues such as England, Spain and Italy.

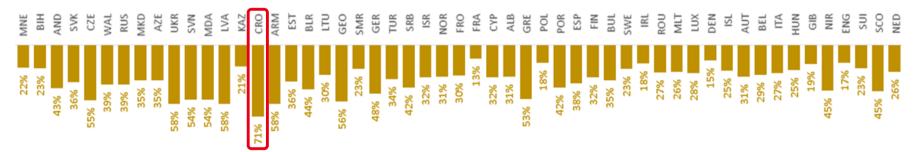
### Comparison of historic domestic title records

National championships have a long history dating back to 1888/89 (English and Dutch championships). Switzerland has the longest continually running championship, with the Dutch top division having been played the most times (125). The number of relatively young championships is a result of the changes in European national boundaries that took place 20-25 years ago.

#### Number of different title-holding clubs



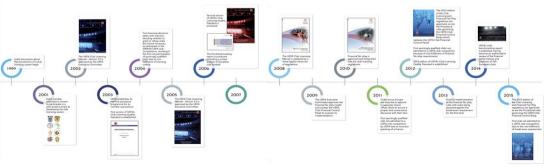
### **Record percentage wins**



# Club licensing 10 years on ...







# Club licensing 10 years on ...

#### CROATIA TOP-DIVISION TOTAL REVENUE AND REVENUE BREAKDOWN Domestic club licensing since: "Club licensing is regarded in Croatia as the best tool ever for achieving higher standards in football. The system is widely accepted with a lot Type of club licensing system: of confidence and encouraged by the clubs, decision-makers, state Separate licences for UEFA and domestic 5% Broadcasting authorities, the public, fans and other stakeholders." competitions 1-GNK Dinamo Zagreb (UCL) Ivančica Sudac, Licensing Manager, Croatian Football Federation Scope of club licensing system: participation in top 2 domestic divisions No. of top-division clubs refused a domestic 2014 2-HNK Rijeka (UEL) licence in the last 5 years: 4 26% UEFA Consequence of being refused a domestic prize money Relegation to a lower division No. of top-division clubs refused a UEFA licence in the last 5 years: 7 9-NK Istra 1961 3-HNK Hajduk Split (UEL) 2014/15 TOP-DIVISION TIMELINE FOR LICENSING DECISIONS LICENSING DATA Clubs: 10 CLUB LICENSING ADMINISTRATION Club with highest revenue: GNK Dinamo Zagreb Head coach qualifications: Pro diploma (8), undergoing UEFA coaching diploma course (2) 1 • Deadlines for UEFA and domestic club Clubs' legal structure: licensing decisions Association (40%), joint stock TRANSFERS company (60%) 2 \* Season starts FIR & AR MEMBERS Stadiums to be used in UEFA club ATTENDANCES . competitions by licensed clubs: TOTAL: 19 Category 4 (2), Category 3 (1), Category 2 (1) UEFA CLUB RANKING







# Historically popular and successful teams .....

### Rangers FC (SCO)



Founded

1872



Domestic Championships





**Domestic Cups** 





**European Honours** 





**European Appearances** 

**52** 

Last European Appearance

2011/12

### Parma (ITA)



Founded



**Domestic Championships** 





**Domestic Cups** 





**European Honours** 





**European Appearances** 



Last European Appearance

2006/07

# Sportingly qualified clubs without a UEFA licence



### **PFC Lokomotiv Sofia** (BUL)

Did not receive the UEFA and domestic licence due to the existence of overdue payables towards employees and social/tax authorities. As a consequence, Lokomotiv was relegated to the third division and ultimately disappeared. Its replacement in the UEFA Europa League, Litex Lovech, was eliminated in Q1.

Club	Position 2014/15	
PFC Lokomotiv Sofia	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
PFK Litex Lovech	4 <sup>th</sup>	

PFK Litex Lovech					
Q1	Q2	Q3	PO	Group	
Started					
Finished					

# Historically popular teams .....

### **PFC Lokomotiv Sofia (BUL)**



### **CSKA Sofia (BUL)**



Founded

1929

Founded

1948

1

Domestic Championships

4

Domestic Championships

31



**Domestic Cups** 

4

Y

**Domestic Cups** 

23



**European Appearances** 

13

European Appearances

53

Last European Appearance

2014/15

Last European Appearance

2011/12



#### **Genoa CFC** (ITA)

Did not receive the UEFA licence due to the non-fulfilment of various criteria. As a consequence, its fierce rival, Sampdoria, took Genoa's place in the UEFA Europa League but it was eliminated in its entrant round.

Club	Position 2014/15	
Genoa CFC	6 <sup>th</sup>	
UC Sampdoria	7 <sup>th</sup>	





#### FC Twente (NED)

Did not receive the UEFA licence as it formally applied for the licence but did not finish the process. As a consequence, Twente was replaced by the 17<sup>th</sup> placed (and subsequently relegated) team who was eliminated in the first qualification round of the UEFA Europa League.

Club	Position 2014/15	
FC Twente	10 <sup>th</sup>	
Go Ahead Eagles	17 <sup>th</sup>	





#### FK Liepāja (LVA)

Did not receive the UEFA licence due to the previous legal entity SK Liepājas Metalurgs being involved in insolvency proceedings. As a consequence, FK Spartaks (which is currently over 20 points behind FK Liepāja in the domestic championship) represented Latvia in the UEFA Europa League.

Club	Position 2014/15	
FK Liepāja	4 <sup>th</sup>	
FK Spartaks	6 <sup>th</sup>	



Q1	Q2	Q3	РО	Group
Started	Finished			



#### FC Tiraspol (MDA)

Initially granted the UEFA licence but it was subsequently withdrawn due to the club being dissolved at the end of the season. As a consequence, Tiraspol no longer exists and its replacement club in the UEFA Europa League was eliminated right away.

Club Position 2014	
FC Tiraspol	4 <sup>th</sup>
Saxan Ceadîr Lunga	5 <sup>th</sup>

#### Saxan Ceadîr Lunga

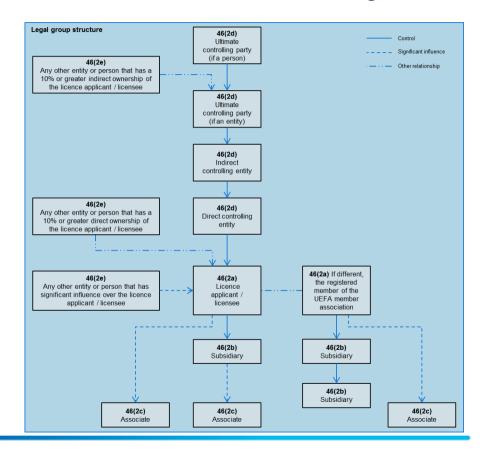
Q1	Q2	Q3	РО	Group
Started				
Finished				

# Consequences of licence refusals

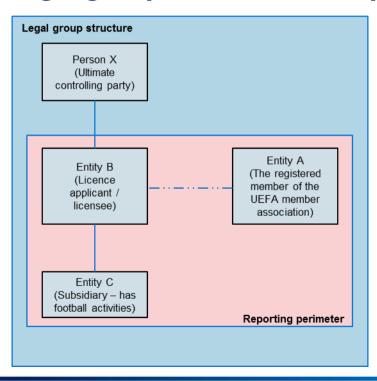
- Impact on domestic competitions
- Impact on the fans
- Impact for the national associations
- Impact for UEFA
- What is the impact for you the clubs?

# Article 46 – Legal group structure and ultimate controlling party

 The legal group structure document must clearly identify and include information on the entities/persons set out in (a) to (e)



#### Legal group structure and reporting perimeter: <u>EXAMPLE 1</u>



#### The legal group structure:

**Entity B** is the licence applicant and has a contractual relationship with Entity A. As per Article 12, Entity B is described as 'a football company'.

**Entity A** is the registered member of a UEFA member association and/or its affiliated league.

**Person X** is the ultimate controlling party of Entity B.

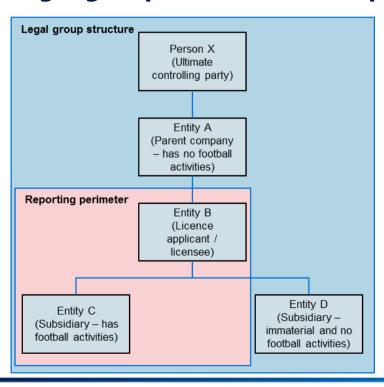
**Entity C** is a subsidiary of Entity B and has football activities.

#### In addition to the licence applicant, the RP must include:

Entity A, as per Art. 46bis(2a); and

**Entity C**, as per Art. 46bis(2b), because Entity C generates revenues and/or performs services and/or incurs costs in respect of football activities.

#### Legal group structure and reporting perimeter: <u>EXAMPLE 2</u>



#### The legal group structure:

**Entity B** is the licence applicant and registered member of a UEFA member association and/or its affiliated league.

**Entity A** is the direct controlling entity of Entity B. Entity A has no football activities.

**Person X** is the ultimate controlling party of Entity A and Entity B. **Entity C** is a subsidiary of Entity B and has football activities.

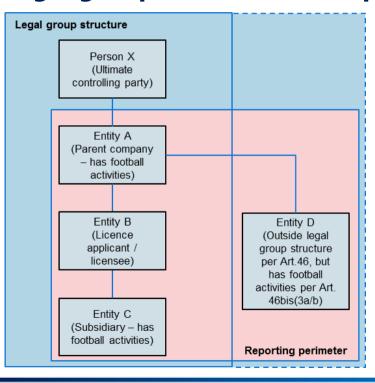
**Entity D** is a subsidiary of Entity B. Entity D is dormant.

#### In addition to the licence applicant, the RP must include:

**Entity C**, as per Art. 46bis(2b), because Entity C generates revenues and/or performs services and/or incurs costs in respect of football activities.

**Entity D** may be excluded, as per Art. 46bis(4b), because it is immaterial compared with the entities that form the RP and does not perform any of the football activities defined in Art. 46bis(3a/b).

#### Legal group structure and reporting perimeter: <u>EXAMPLE 3</u>



#### The legal group structure:

**Entity B** is the licence applicant and registered member of a UEFA member association and/or its affiliated league.

**Entity A** is the direct controlling entity of Entity B and includes football activities (e.g. employees involved in sponsorship activities for the football club).

**Person X** is the ultimate controlling party of Entity A and Entity B. **Entity C** is a subsidiary of Entity B and has football activities.

#### In addition to the licence applicant, the RP must include:

**Entity A**, as per Art. 46bis(2c/d), because it generates revenues and/or performs services and/or incurs costs in respect of football activities; **Entity C**, as per Art. 46bis(2b), itgenerates revenues and/or performs services and/or incurs costs in respect of football activities; and **Entity D**, as per Art. 46bis(2d).

### Strengthening of overdue payables criteria

- Requirements for club licensing and club monitoring aligned;
- Criteria in respect of overdue payables towards employees and social/tax authorities split in two separate articles for greater clarity and to facilitate their assessment;
- Clubs under monitoring have to comply with the no overdue payables criteria at June 30 and at September 30:
  - clubs which do not have overdue payables in June could still be subject to a detailed assessment in September.

### Youth and women football expenses

- Deduction of expenses related to youth and women's football from the break-even calculation – aimed at fostering further development in these areas;
- Youth expenses can now be deducted "gross" rather than "net of income" from the break-even calculation;
- Expenditure on women's expenses added as an adjustment to the breakeven calculation (similar method to youth expenses).

#### Other new adjustments

- New adjustment for leasehold improvement:
  - For clubs which do not capitalise leasehold improvements and meet the following criteria:
    - Measured reliably
    - Future economic benefit
    - Not otherwise capitalised
- New adjustment for credit arising from procedures providing protection from creditors:
  - Credit to the P&L to be excluded from the break-even calculation.

#### New deadlines for contributions

- New deadlines for contributions to be made.
  - Linked to submissions deadlines for break-even information:
    - October 15<sup>th</sup> for clubs with financial year end  $\rightarrow$  July
    - March 15<sup>th</sup> for clubs with financial year end between Aug. / Dec.

Acceptable deviation: €30M (reduced from €45M)

## Key changes to the FFP requirements

**Three significant** changes to the regulations:

- 1. The assessment of **fair-value** for related party sponsorship transactions (*Annex X, F.6*);
- 2. The addition of a mitigating factor for clubs operating in "**structurally inefficient**" markets (*Annex XI* (*g*));
- The introduction of voluntary agreements (Annex XII).

# The assessment of fair-value for related party sponsorship transactions

• <u>Clarification of the related party definition</u>:

Any entity that, alone or in aggregate together with other entities which are linked to the same owner or government, and represents more than 30% of the club's total revenues (except broadcasters and UEFA or national associations) would be considered as having significant influence and thus considered as a "related party".

- Process for fair-value assessments now defined:
  - Independent third party assessor(s) appointed in order to assign a fair value to the related party transaction. This value will be used for the calculation of the break-even result.

# Mitigating factor for structurally inefficient markets

- As part of its considerations, the CFCB may consider if the licensee is operating in a structurally inefficient football market;
- The inefficiency of a football market is determined by the UEFA administration on a yearly basis by means of a comparative analysis of the top division clubs' total gate receipts and broadcasting rights revenues relative to the population of the territory of the UEFA member association concerned (Football GDP per capita);
- Where the CFCB deems that this mitigating factor should be applied it will consider the break-even deficit relative to the gap between the UEFA member association's football GDP and the European.

## The introduction of voluntary agreements

Clubs now offered opportunity to present voluntary agreements (as opposed to settlement agreements) in order to implement a U-turn in their business strategy:

- Clubs falling under the scope of FFP monitoring are usually offered settlement agreements that include not only penalties and restrictions but also rigorous financial targets and covenants. Clubs must also reach breakeven over the life of the settlement agreement;
- Under a similar process, the CFCB IC may under certain circumstances, agree to voluntary agreements (VA) with clubs who are proactive and come forward regarding a future breach;
- The process and timing would correspond to current processes undergone with settlement agreements with the difference being no penalty assessed at the time of the VA.

## The introduction of voluntary agreements

A club is eligible to apply to enter into a voluntary agreement if it:

- has been granted a valid licence to enter the UEFA club competitions by its national licensor but has not qualified for a UEFA club competition in the season that precedes the entry into force of the voluntary agreement; or
- ii. has qualified for a UEFA club competition and fulfils the break-even requirement in the monitoring period that precedes the entry into force of the voluntary agreement; or
- iii. has been subject to a significant change in ownership and/or control within the 12 months preceding the application deadline.

## The introduction of voluntary agreements

Voluntary agreements would be subject to specific conditions such as:

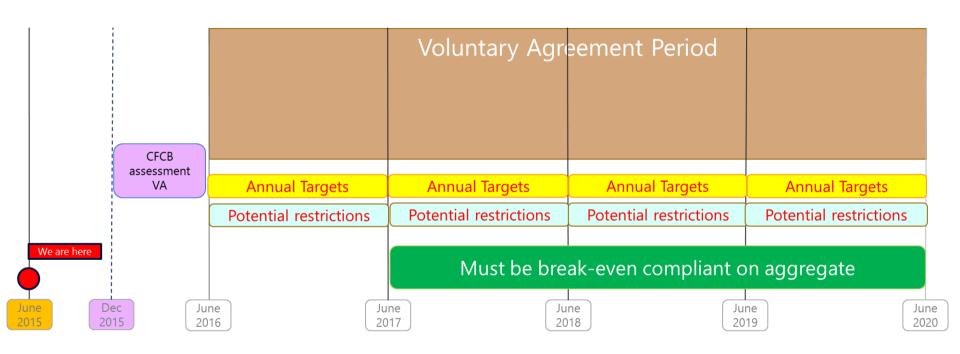
- Applications to be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year preceding commencement of the VA;
- Funds must be committed in advance and guaranteed over the period of the voluntary agreement;
- Inclusion of a plausible and conservative business plan (base and worst case scenarios not reliant on European qualification) that demonstrate breakeven compliance by the end of the regime;
- Assurance that the club is going concern over the duration of the VA;
- VA will be subject to specific financial targets (annual and aggregated) and/or limitations.

## Advantages of voluntary agreements

The extending of voluntary agreements to clubs who are forthcoming and proactive about a future break-even breach offers several advantages:

- Conforms to the FFP philosophy but leaves room for clubs to invest and grow but prevents a return to gambling on success;
- BE compliance within a specified period;
- Time frame of VA limits any inflationary impact;
- Tackles the "ossification" criticism so new clubs entering UEFA competitions can invest to compete;
- Understands the need for new ownership to implement its business plan to rescue failing clubs in negative spirals.

#### The process



# Slight technical problem ...

