A PROGRAMME FOR LEGAL SPECIALISTS WHO WANT TO UPDATE AND DEEPEN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF FOOTBALL LAW
FOREWORD FROM THE UEFA PRESIDENT

My whole professional life has been devoted to law and football – they are my work, but also my passion. More than ever, I value and appreciate how vital law is to football, especially in the constantly evolving and complex world of this wonderful sport. As a key element of our unique suite of educational initiatives, the UEFA Football Law Programme seeks to address these challenges. By bringing together the various stakeholders at different levels of European football, the course aims to foster an open dialogue, creating an optimal environment for further development and protection of the game, and achieve a balance that works for everyone.

In this way, you can help make all our football associations more efficient, generate awareness of the specific challenges posed by football law and ensure the long-term health of the game in Europe.

Aleksander Čeferin
UEFA President

UEFA Football Law Programme (UEFA FLP)

A programme for legal specialists who want to update and deepen their understanding of football law

The UEFA Football Law Programme (FLP) comprises four week-long sessions that address key issues of football law. Designed and run by UEFA in close collaboration with internationally renowned academic experts and practitioners, the programme is intended for legal specialists who need insight into the most recent developments in football law while broadening their understanding of the issues. To encourage the exchange of ideas and opinions, the UEFA FLP is open to a wide range of participants with different backgrounds and from a variety of organisations.

On completing the UEFA FLP, graduates will have:
• a deeper knowledge of football law;
• a better understanding of the latest jurisprudence;
• experience of presenting in front of the CAS;
• a strong network of legal specialists in football.

Testimonials

Sabina Fasciolo, head of legal affairs and compliance, Italian Football Association

Julius Becker, general counsel, Hamburg SV Fussball AG, Germany

Angelo Chetcuti, general secretary, Malta Football Association
Programme overview

The UEFA FLP lasts one year, starting in October 2019 and ending in September 2020, divided into four mandatory week-long sessions. Each session is dedicated to a specific topic of football law and is hosted by one of the programme partners.

SESSION 1: INTRODUCTION TO FOOTBALL LAW
21–25 October 2019
Venue: Istanbul, Turkey
Academic partner: Kadir Has University

Kadir Has University Sports Studies Research Centre aims to provide the highest standards of education in the sports law, management and media sector and to conduct research into the intersection of sports and social sciences.

Topics
- UEFA and FIFA structures: rules and regulations;
- Football stakeholders: ECA, FIFPro and European Leagues;
- Football law and state law: sources and relationship;
- Introduction to Swiss law;
- EU law and sport;
- ECJ jurisprudence in sport: influence on football;
- Council of Europe and sport.

SESSION 2: FIFA TRANSFER REGULATIONS
10–14 February 2020
Venue: Rijeka, Croatia
Academic partner: University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law

With its more than 45-year history, the faculty of law at the University of Rijeka offers a high-quality legal education and leading academic excellence, especially in the fields of EU law and sports law.

Topics
- FIFA transfer regulations: history and overview;
- Players’ status and player registration;
- Contractual stability;
- Federative rights and third-party influence;
- International transfers of minors;
- Training compensation and solidarity mechanisms;
- Release of players to national associations;
- International v national regulations.

SESSION 3: OTHER FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS
4–8 May 2020
Venue: Venice, Italy
Academic partner: Ca’ Foscari University of Venice

Founded in 1868, the business school at Ca’ Foscari University of Venice was the first higher education institution in Italy to provide courses in economics and commerce. Ever since, the historical institution has been housed in a large gothic building facing onto the Grand Canal in the heart of Venice. It is ranked third best Italian university for quality of research and the first Italian university to have launched the ‘brain gain programme’ to attract the best researchers from all over the world.

Topics
- Disciplinary procedures in football (FIFA and UEFA models);
- UEFA's financial fair play system;
- Fight against doping: the role of WADA;
- FIFA and confederations’ anti-doping rules and procedures;
- Match-fixing: rules and regulations;
- FIFA intermediaries;
- Match organisation rules;
- Player eligibility rules and nationality issues;
- TV and IP rights;
- Event and sponsorship contracts.

SESSION 4: CAS: SYSTEM, PROCEDURES AND JURISPRUDENCE
14–18 September 2020
Venue: UEFA headquarters, Nyon, Switzerland
Sports partner: UEFA

UEFA is the governing body of European football, a representative democracy, and the umbrella organisation for 55 national football associations all over Europe.

Topics
- Role and functions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS);
- Ordinary procedures;
- Appeal procedures;
- Landmark cases in football: CAS competence, financial fair play, contractual stability, training compensation, solidarity mechanisms, doping, disciplinary, match-fixing and transfers of minors.
Workload and assessment
The total amount of work necessary to complete the UEFA FLP is estimated to be around 250 hours, comprising approximately 20 days of face-to-face seminars, preparatory readings for every session, preparation of case studies and research for the oral exam during the last session.

There will be three forms of assessment:
• Class attendance and participation;
• Practical case studies and individual presentations;
• Oral exam.

Academic certification
Programme graduates will receive a certificate of advanced study in football law (CAS, worth 10 ECTS credits) from Kadir Has University in cooperation with the faculty of law of the University of Rijeka, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice and UEFA.

Programme fees
• €7,900, including all programme materials, lunches and coffee breaks during each session;
• Please note this fee does not include travel and accommodation;
• Costs are covered by UEFA for representatives of its member associations.

Application process
Candidates must complete the application form on UEFAAcademy.com and submit it to academy@uefa.ch along with a CV and a letter of recommendation from an employer (related to sport and/or law) by the application deadline of 31 May 2019.

The applications will be reviewed by UEFA FLP applications committee and a final decision on the participants accepted for the programme will be taken by the end of June 2019.

To be eligible, applicants must:
• work in the legal department of a UEFA member association;
• hold a legal position in a football club, players’ union, league or Confederation; or
• work in a law firm that handles football cases.

Applicants must also prove that they have a good command of English (both spoken and written).

Please note that the UEFA FLP is designed primarily for people who have not attended a programme on football law in the past.

A WORD FROM THE PROGRAMME DIRECTORS

Given the complexity of the legal topics in football, it is important for all members of the football family to cooperate and understand their respective positions to improve the current situation. What you will mostly gain from the UEFA FLP is this stakeholder knowledge, as well as the tools you need to improve cooperation. By welcoming participants from a variety of backgrounds and organisations, this programme fosters such collaboration in your daily work.

Angelo Rigopoulos, managing director of integrity and regulatory, UEFA
Michele Bernasconi, legal adviser, CAS arbitrator, UEFA
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