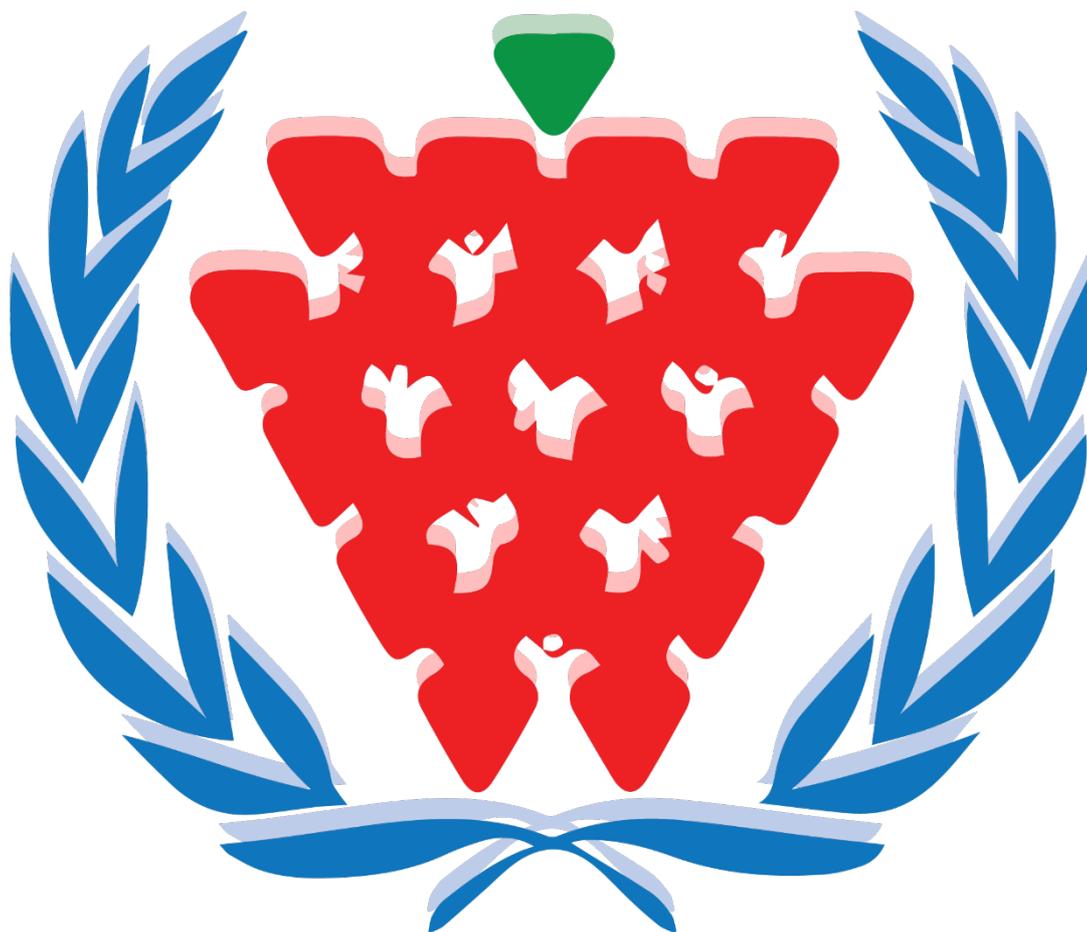


# STRAWBERRY FIELDS HIGH SCHOOL

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2022



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**Union of European Football Association (UEFA)**

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# SFHS'22 STUDY GUIDE

## Union of European Football Association (UEFA)

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# Welcome Remark

Welcome to the ‘**Union of European Football Association (UEFA)**’ at SFHS MUN 2022!! My name is Vishesh Mehra and I am the chairperson for this committee along with Kushagra Aditya, and I can’t wait to link up and work with you all. I am looking forward to SFHS MUN 2022.

In this stimulation of the UEFA committee, we plan to work out two major topics that have been in consideration in the minds of players, agents, clubs and most importantly the fans. The 2 issues are -

1. Ensuring equal wealth distribution across the football pyramid in the context of the Super League,
2. Deliberating the workload of players concerning the increasing number of championships and matches.

Both topics are critical as they will directly impact the game and its nature. The agenda is not only about the interest of UEFA and the clubs but also the interests of the millions of fans of this beautiful game. Every delegate must understand ideas put forward by them or the decision taken by them is going to change a lot and lots are at stake. Therefore, delegates must be well aware of the problems at hand before the committee gets underway.

To conclude, I would just like to say that the Executive Board expects all delegates always think creatively and think on

their feet. The EB is friendly and approachable, so if at any time you need assistance with anything; feel free to come to us without any hesitation. Looking forward to seeing you all!  
All the best to each delegate!

Regards,

Vishesh Mehra & Kushagra Aditya

Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson



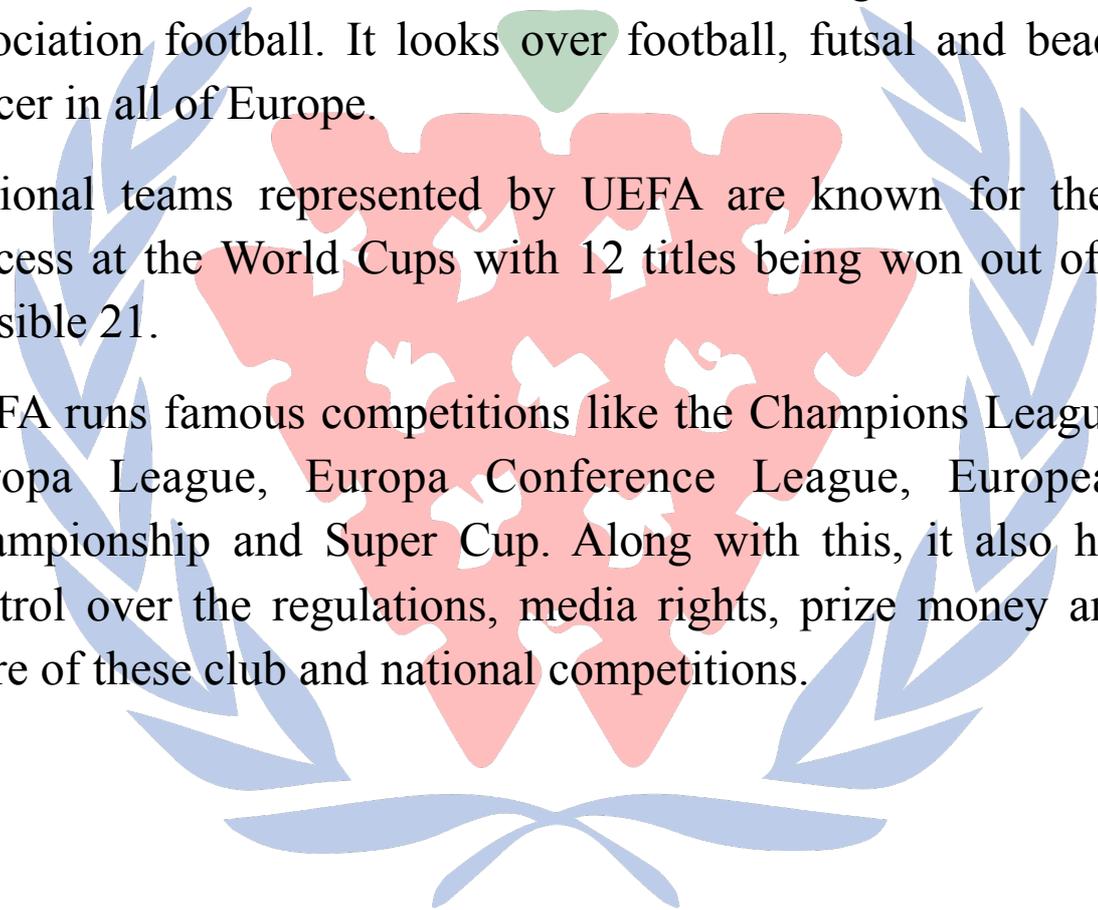
# Introduction

UEFA was inaugurated on 15 June 1954 in Switzerland. It consisted of 31 members at the time of incorporation but currently has moved up to 55 members.

It is one of the six continental bodies of governance in association football. It looks over football, futsal and beach soccer in all of Europe.

National teams represented by UEFA are known for their success at the World Cups with 12 titles being won out of a possible 21.

UEFA runs famous competitions like the Champions League, Europa League, Europa Conference League, European Championship and Super Cup. Along with this, it also has control over the regulations, media rights, prize money and more of these club and national competitions.



# UEFA Financial Sustainability

## Regulations

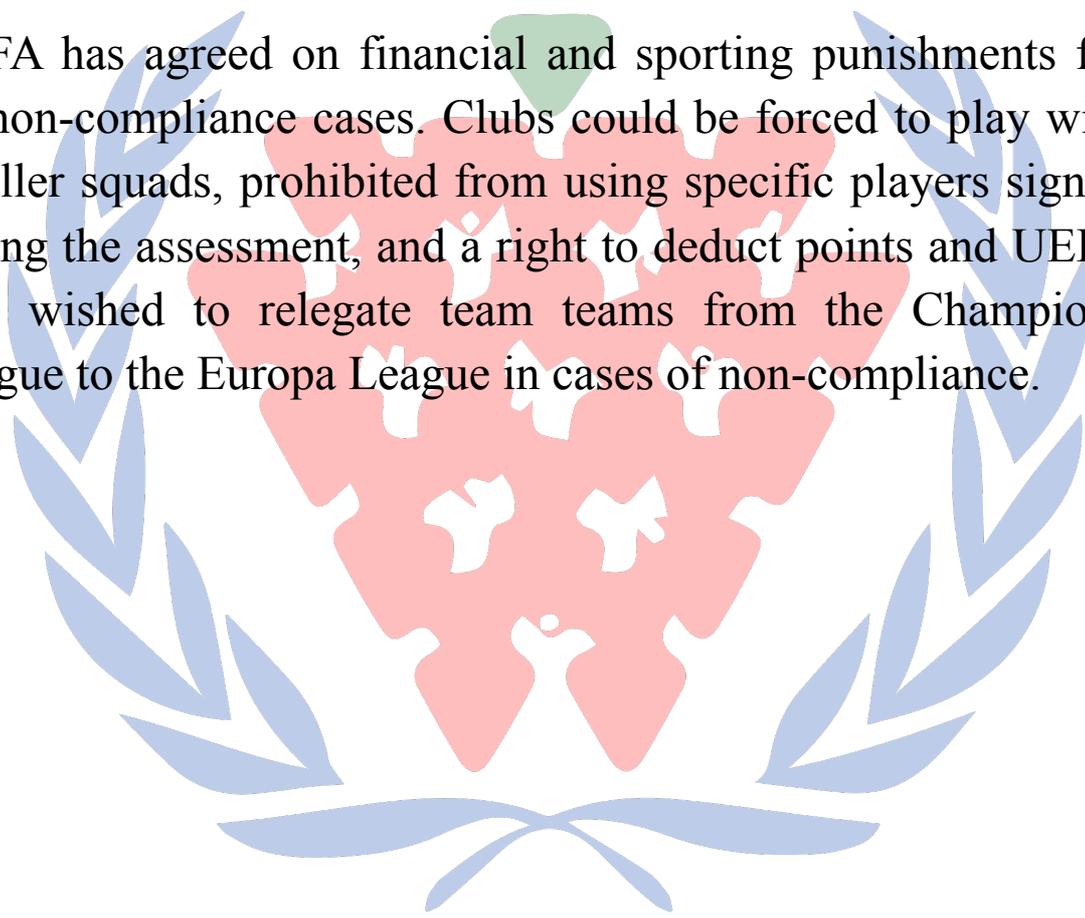
Replacing the Financial Fair Play (FFP) which was set up in 2010 and failed to deal with state-headed clubs like Manchester City and Paris Saint-Germain, the new set of rules come into play from June 2022 after UEFA admitted new regulations were needed with clubs suffering from massive losses due to the COVID – 19 pandemic.

The new set of rules helps sustain clubs financially. UEFA cited *solvency, stability and cost control* as the three pillars to executing these rules successfully. The committee has pushed for three major rules –

1. No Overdue Payment Rule – it ensures timely payment of bills by all clubs with UEFA having quarterly checks of clubs accounting systems to regulate solvency,
2. Football Earnings Rule – it will allow clubs to incur a 60 million Euro loss over three years, while financially strong clubs shall be allowed to lose an extra 10 million Euros a year. (Earlier under the FFP, a loss of 30 million Euros was allowed over three years), and

3. Squad Cost Rule – it will cap the spending on wages of players and coaches with the inclusion of agent fees and transfer fees at 70% of the club revenues. To ensure the transfers are done within the guidelines, the assessment will be done by UEFA over a calendar year.

UEFA has agreed on financial and sporting punishments for all non-compliance cases. Clubs could be forced to play with smaller squads, prohibited from using specific players signed during the assessment, and a right to deduct points and UEFA also wished to relegate team teams from the Champions League to the Europa League in cases of non-compliance.



## **UEFA Coefficients Ranking**

UEFA coefficients are statistics used for tabulating and seeding teams in European competitions. These are calculated by UEFA, which is published in three types of ranking order: one analyzing a single season, one analyzing five years and another one analyzing ten-ten years coefficients are based on the performance of clubs in the European Cups during a period. During those years match results are awarded 2 points for a win and 1 point for a draw from the group Champions League, Europa League and Europa Conference League.

In the knockout roplay-off off after the Europa League group stage and Europa Conference League group stage and before a round of 16, match results count for the country ranking only and not the club ranking.

One bonus point is awarded for reaching the quarter-finals (not of the Europa Conference League) of the Champions League and Europa League along with the semi-finals and finals.

Group stage qualification is awarded 4 bonus points, qualification for RO16 of the UCL is awarded 5 points and qualification of RO16 of UEL is awarded with1 bonus point.

Furthermore, there are bonus points for the winners and runners-up of the UEL and UECL group stages: 4 bonus points for the winners of UEL groups, and 2 bonus points for runners-up. And 2 bonus points for winners of UECL groups and 1 bonus point for the runners-up.

Matches in the qualifying round are awarded with 1 point for a win and 0.5 for a draw but only for country ranking.



## UEFA Pay Distribution

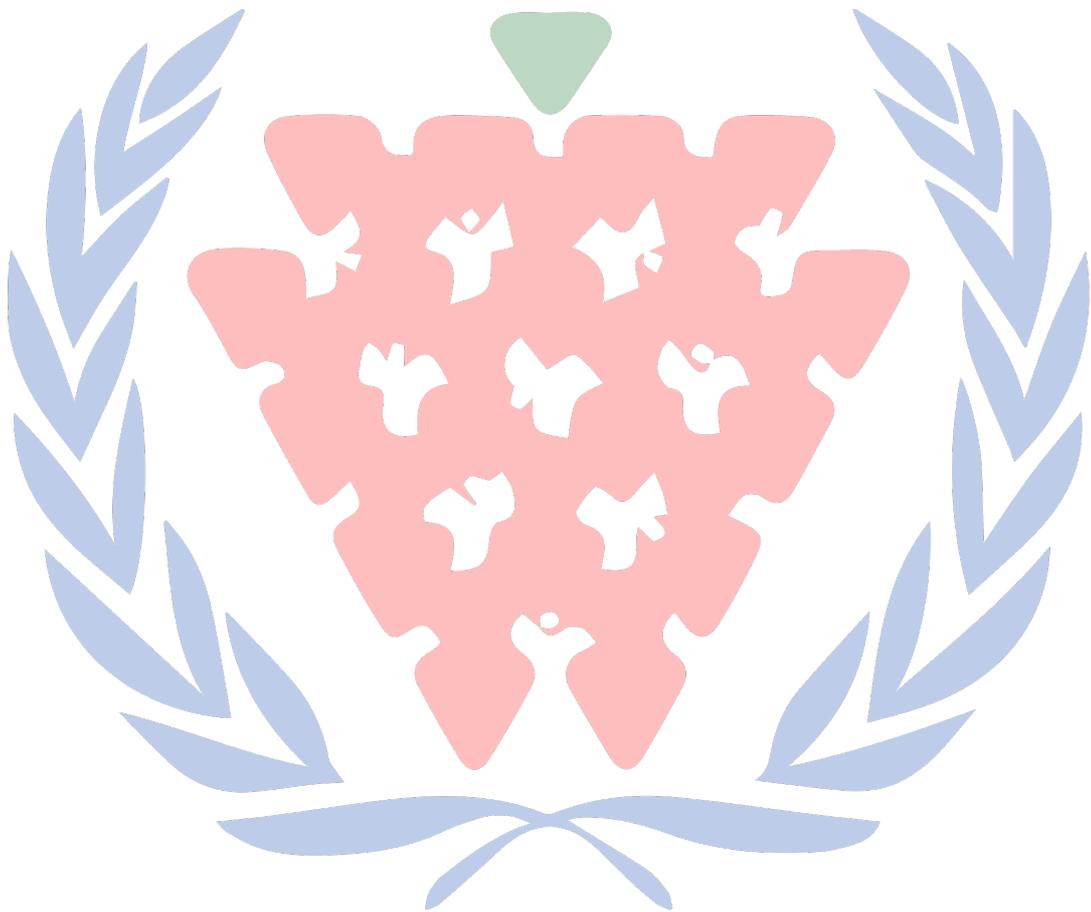
All the 32-participating team team team teams in the Champions League share more than 2 billion Euros each season at an average of 62 million Euros per team. Europa League clubs get 14.5 million Euros from an overall fund of 465 million.

The gap keeps growing larger and will keep growing even further if the same model is kept. The clubs and leagues have appealed to UEFA against the wealth gap that's a risky imbalance in European competitions.

However, these leagues and clubs have struggled to influence UEFA with Ethethe European Club Association which is heavily dominated by a group of wealthy clubs (some of which joined the breakaway Super League project).

| Stage            | Prize Money (2021-22) |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Winner           | \$22.69 million       |
| Runner-up        | \$17.59 million       |
| Semi-finalists   | \$14.18 million       |
| Quarterfinalists | \$12.02 million       |
| Round of 16      | \$10.89 million       |
| Group-stage wins | \$3.17 million        |

| Stage             | Prize Money (2021-22) |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Group-stage draws | \$1.05 million        |
| Group stage       | \$17.74 million       |



## **Workload on Players**

The number of matches played by a professional in football has increased over the last three years, with some spending 70-80 per cent of their playing time in a two-game two-game week system.

Long distance games, international trips, pandemics, alternative match days without rest and more put pressure on many players' health and performance because of sudden changes in climate and time zones. Some players travelled over 200,000 kilometres in the last three seasons, which is equivalent to going around the globe five times.

Medical research recommends that off-season and in-season breaks need protection and effective rest for the players to wind down without any further matches or commitments.

FIFPRO suggests that each player should have at least 28 days for off-season and 14 days for an in-season break. However, 45 per cent of off-season breaks were shorter than 28 days and 30 per cent of in-season breaks lasted less than 14 days. This shows that a large number of players do not get sufficient rest.

This underlines the urgent need to rethink mandatory player safeguards to protect health and performance and to rethink travel requirements.

## Conclusion

Football can be labelled as an evolving game, with recent editions like Video Assistant Refereeing, semi-automated offside technology ball sensor and other editions, it is about time that a consensus is reached about the economic inequalities among the European clubs where the rich get richer and poor get poorer. A system must be set up with fair rules and regulations to safeguard all clubs equally and to prevent another idea of the Super League from destroying football heritage. Player safety must be given more importance, mentally and physically. More championships account for more matches which account for longer seasons and lesser time to recover for the players. Long-term injuries and fatigue due to excess game time at the club and international level impact the player in the short run as well as the long run. The committee must come up with creative ideas and suggestions to tackle the situations at hand and create a sense of safety.

# Citations

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