



# Coaching Convention

2025 edition

# CONTENTS

<b>Background</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>I. GENERAL PROVISIONS</b>	<b>5</b>
Article 1 – Definition of terms.....	6
Article 2 – Aims.....	7
Article 3 – Scope of application .....	8
Article 4 – Convention membership status.....	8
<b>II. RIGHTS AND DUTIES</b>	<b>9</b>
Article 5 – Rights and duties of UEFA .....	10
Article 6 – Rights and duties of the convention parties .....	11
Article 7 – Recognition of equivalent qualifications.....	12
<b>III. COURSE STANDARDS</b>	<b>13</b>
Article 8 – Reality-based learning .....	14
Article 9 – Coach educators .....	14
Article 10 – Organisation.....	15
Article 11 – UEFA Pro diploma courses .....	16
Article 12 – Attendance .....	16
Article 13 – Assessment .....	16
Article 14 – Graduation .....	16
<b>IV. UEFA COACHING DIPLOMA COURSES</b>	<b>17</b>
Article 15 – UEFA coaching diploma courses pathway.....	18
Article 16 – Admission criteria for all UEFA coaching diploma courses .....	18
Article 17 – Further admission criteria for UEFA B diploma courses .....	18
Article 18 – Further admission criteria for UEFA A diploma courses.....	18
Article 19 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Pro diploma courses .....	18
Article 20 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Youth B diploma courses .....	18
Article 21 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Elite Youth A diploma courses.....	19
Article 22 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Futsal B diploma courses .....	19

Article 23 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Futsal A diploma courses .....	19
Article 24 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Goalkeeper B diploma courses .....	19
Article 25 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Goalkeeper A diploma courses .....	19
Article 26 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Fitness B diploma courses .....	19
Article 27 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Fitness A diploma courses .....	19
Article 28 – Duration and content .....	20
<b><u>V. SPECIFIC COURSES FOR LONG-SERVING PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS</u></b>	<b>21</b>
Article 29 – Admission criteria for courses specifically for long-serving professional players .....	22
Article 30 – Further admission criteria .....	22
Article 31 – Organisation .....	22
Article 32 – Duration and content .....	22
<b><u>VI. FURTHER EDUCATION (CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT)</u></b>	<b>23</b>
Article 33 – Aim .....	24
Article 34 – Admission criteria .....	24
Article 35 – Organisation .....	24
<b><u>VII. ISSUANCE, TRANSFER AND VALIDITY OF UEFA COACHING LICENCES</u></b>	<b>25</b>
Article 36 – Issuance and transfer of licences .....	26
Article 37 – Validity .....	26
<b><u>VIII. FINAL PROVISIONS</u></b>	<b>27</b>
Article 38 – Applicable law and disputes .....	28
Article 39 – Languages .....	28
Article 40 – Adoption, abrogation and transitional rules .....	28
<b><u>ANNEXES</u></b>	<b>30</b>
Annex A – UEFA coaching diploma courses pathway .....	30
Annex B – Cross-border education form .....	31

## BACKGROUND

From grassroots to elite football and futsal, setting the highest standards for male and female coaches is a prerequisite for developing better players and raising the quality of European football and futsal ever higher.

Since 1998, the UEFA Coaching Convention has set a common benchmark for how our member associations educate and develop coaches. It has also provided a framework for raising the status of the coaching profession across Europe and facilitating the free movement of qualified professionals within Europe. The diplomas and licences issued by signatories of the convention are effectively recognised as UEFA diplomas and licences.

UEFA is committed to promoting gender equality and fostering a diverse and inclusive culture within football. In line with UEFA's strategic vision for 2030, United for Success, and the 2024–30 UEFA Women's Football Strategy, the UEFA Coaching Convention now includes ambitious, explicit targets designed to ensure greater diversity and representation in the coaching profession, to better serve both women's football and women in football.





## I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

## Article 1 – Definition of terms

- 1 In the present convention, the use of the masculine form refers equally to the feminine.
- 2 For the purposes of the present convention, the following definitions apply:
  - aptitude evaluation: procedure by a UEFA member association to determine whether a coach's competence and knowledge is of a level suitable for admission to a coaching course.
  - assessment: continuous and final assessment to evaluate the competence of a student during and at the end of a coaching course.
  - blended learning: the acquisition of competence or knowledge through a deliberate combination of in-person (classroom, pitch, gym, etc.) and online interventions that instigate and support learning.
  - candidate: individual who sends a request to a convention party to attend a coaching course within the framework of the present convention.
  - coach: person who is in charge of coaching football or futsal players and who holds a valid coaching licence or an equivalent qualification.
  - coach educator: holder of a valid coach educator's licence, i.e. a person with football and/or futsal, teaching and leadership skills who takes care of the overall development and education of current and future coaches.
  - coaching course: programme designed to teach individuals the skills, tactics and methodologies needed to effectively coach male and female football or futsal players.
  - convention party: UEFA member association that has signed the present convention.
  - equivalent qualification: a recognition, within UEFA's territory, of the competence of a coach educated by a non-convention party or an independent course provider that is equivalent to a UEFA diploma.
  - evaluator: expert appointed by the Jira Panel to evaluate a UEFA member association's national coach education programme against UEFA's minimum requirements and to provide that association with support, expertise and advice.
  - graduate: student who has successfully completed a coaching course.

- independent course provider (ICP): provider of football/futsal coaching courses within UEFA's territory that is not a UEFA member association.
- Jira Panel: UEFA expert panel composed of coach education experts who monitor the implementation of the UEFA Coaching Convention. The panel is supported by ad hoc specialist groups.
- locally trained coach: resident of the country of a convention party who has been coaching in that territory for a minimum of three of the previous five years.
- long-serving professional player: player who has played for the required number of years in the top division or in a fully professional league of a FIFA or UEFA member association.
- non-convention party: national association affiliated to FIFA that is not a UEFA member association, or is a UEFA member association but has not signed the present convention.
- operational agreement: agreement between UEFA and a sister confederation which sets out the minimum requirements and the procedure for recognition of coaching qualifications issued in accordance with their respective coaching conventions.
- qualification: any coaching diploma, licence or certificate.
- student: coaching course participant.
- UEFA diploma: award issued to an individual by a convention party confirming that they have successfully completed a UEFA coaching diploma course.
- UEFA core diplomas: the foundation football C diploma, followed by B, A and UEFA Pro, and the foundation Futsal C diploma followed by Futsal B and Futsal A.
- UEFA specialist diplomas: the Youth B, Elite Youth A, Goalkeeper B, Goalkeeper A, Fitness B and Fitness A diplomas.
- UEFA licence: permit issued for a limited period of time to the holder of a UEFA coaching diploma authorising them to coach at a level defined by each convention party for its own territory.



## Article 2 – Aims

The present convention aims to:

- a) ensure that European football and futsal are at the forefront of coach education excellence;
- b) constantly improve coach education systems and coaching standards within UEFA member associations;
- c) ensure well-educated and competent coaches at all levels of the game for the well-being and physical, psychological and technical development of players;
- d) establish UEFA diplomas for coaches working at all levels in football and futsal, and guarantee a unified minimum standard of education for coaches;
- e) ensure that the quality of coach education on UEFA's territory is regulated in a transparent, objective and non-discriminatory manner in order to foster mutual recognition of coaching qualifications throughout the UEFA territory;
- f) recognise the competence of individual coaches with qualifications issued by non-convention parties where no

operational agreement applies and by ICPs, all within the UEFA territory;

- g) support UEFA member associations and their affiliated clubs in their efforts to comply with the objectives of the UEFA club licensing system;
- h) increase the number of male and female coaches with recognised coaching qualifications;
- i) foster football and futsal coach education through reality-based learning;
- j) ensure that quality vocational education is available to support the development of the coaching workforce;
- k) maintain football and futsal coaching as a recognised, regulated profession;
- l) promote European integration and, in particular, the free movement of qualified coaches.

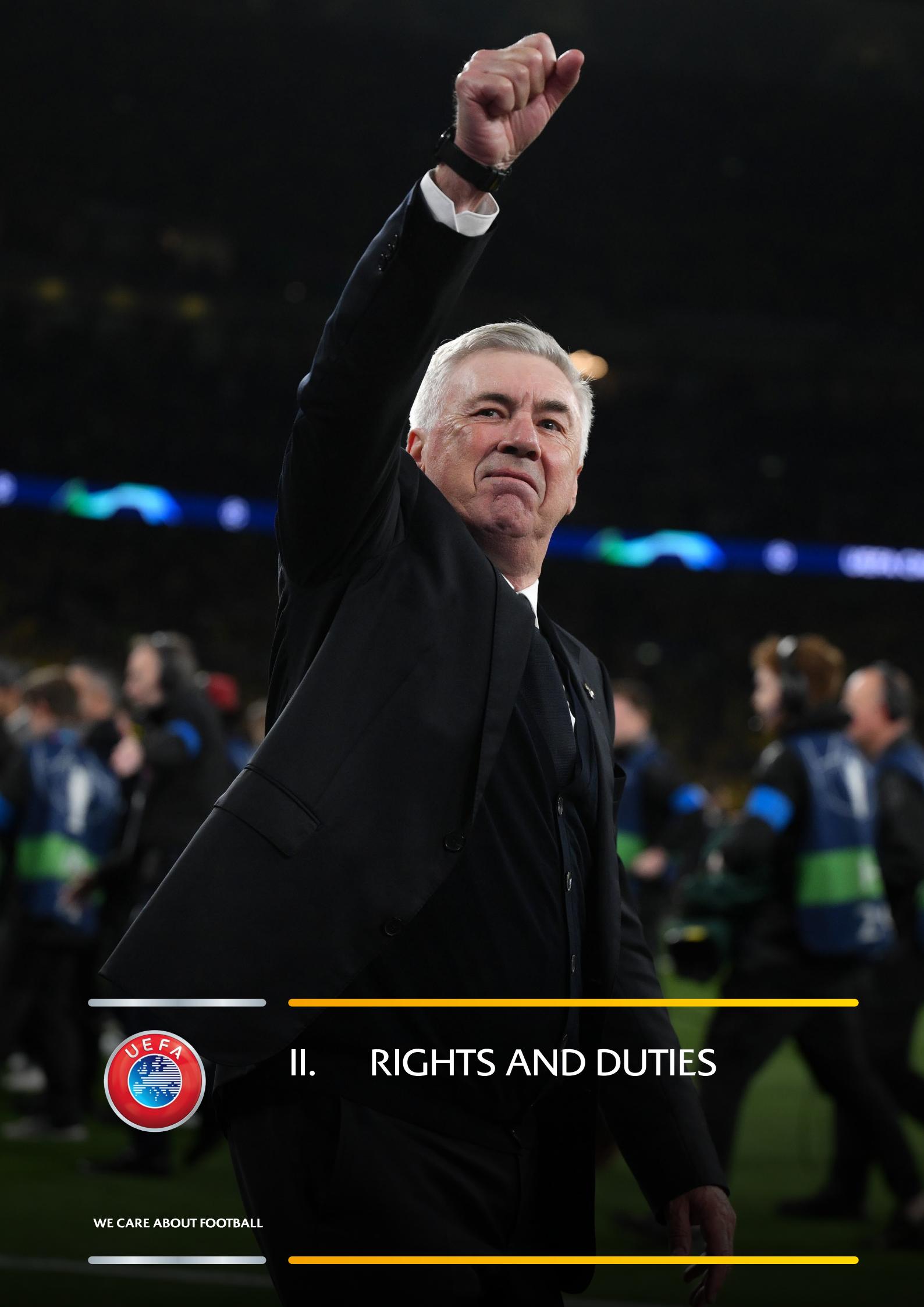
### Article 3 – Scope of application

- 1 The present convention:
  - a) defines the rights and duties of UEFA and the convention parties with regard to the UEFA coaching diplomas and licences, for all levels of football and futsal;
  - b) sets out the minimum requirements for coach educators, admission criteria, organisation, duration, content, teaching methodology, course completion and issuance of diplomas and licences, further education and the validity of licences for all endorsed courses;
  - c) sets out the process for recognising the competence of coaches educated by a non-convention party where no operational agreement applies, or by an ICP;
  - d) is without prejudice to the right of a convention party to accept any national qualification or equivalent qualification recognised under national or European law for the purposes of domestic competitions or other coaching activities on its territory.
- 2 The present convention does not set out the minimum requirements or the procedure for recognition of coaching qualifications and competences under an operational agreement.

### Article 4 – Convention membership status

- 1 The following convention membership statuses are recognised under this convention, in ascending order:
  - a) limited membership status at B level, which is attributed by UEFA to a UEFA member association that has successfully completed the delivery of a UEFA B or a UEFA Futsal B diploma course as part of its national coach education programme;
  - b) limited membership status at A level, which is attributed by UEFA to a convention party with limited membership status at B level that has successfully completed the delivery of a UEFA A or a UEFA Futsal A diploma course as part of its national coach education programme;
  - c) full membership status, which is attributed by UEFA to a convention party with limited membership status at A level that has successfully completed the delivery of a UEFA Pro diploma course as part of its national coach education programme.
- 2 The introduction of specialist diplomas alone does not grant eligibility for either limited or full membership status.





## II. RIGHTS AND DUTIES

## Article 5 – Rights and duties of UEFA

1 As a signatory of the present convention and through its competent bodies, i.e. the UEFA Executive Committee, the Development and Technical Assistance Committee and the Jira Panel, UEFA has the right to:

- a) monitor the proper application of the present convention;
- b) promote the coach education system, as laid down herein, throughout Europe;
- c) appoint an evaluator to review a convention party's national coach education programme every three years or whenever the convention party's technical director or coach education director changes;
- d) confirm or downgrade a convention party's membership status or amend or annul a partnership agreement, after having invited the convention party concerned to explain its position;
- e) take any decision or any measure to achieve the aims set out in the present convention or in the event of a breach of the present convention, such as:
  - i) amend a convention party's national coach education programme or a particular course therein,
  - ii) instruct a convention party to open a disciplinary investigation and/or to suspend a coach or a coach educator,
  - iii) instruct a convention party to require UEFA coaching diploma holders to attend a revised course in full or in part,
  - iv) revoke or instruct a convention party to revoke a UEFA coaching diploma or licence,
  - v) suspend a convention party from organising coaching courses at one or more UEFA coaching levels for a limited period of time,
  - vi) suspend the financial incentive allocated for implementing the present convention;
- f) terminate the present convention with a particular convention party at any time by informing the latter and all remaining convention parties;
- g) have a coaching qualification issued by a sister confederation assessed in accordance with the minimum requirements and procedure for recognition set out in the applicable operational agreement or, in the absence of such operational agreement, by the Jira Panel and, if approved, recognise that qualification so that its holder may coach on UEFA's territory.

2 As a signatory of the present convention, UEFA has a duty to:

- a) support all convention parties in the proper application of the present convention;
- b) develop a modern and comprehensive UEFA coach education system;
- c) recognise all UEFA diplomas and licences issued by convention parties;
- d) recognise any equivalent qualification approved by a convention party in accordance with the recognition process set out in this convention;
- e) contribute to the development of coach educators in close cooperation with the convention parties;
- f) facilitate contact between different convention parties;
- g) provide the convention parties with standard templates and detailed instructions for the use of specific UEFA branding and the issuance of UEFA coaching diplomas and licences;
- h) design educational and methodological materials to support the delivery of coaching courses, coach educator development programmes and further education;
- i) update the convention parties about coaching and coach education developments related to the present convention;
- j) respect the rights of each convention party as defined in the present convention.



## Article 6 – Rights and duties of the convention parties

- 1 Each convention party has the right to:
  - a) offer UEFA-approved coach education courses at the appropriate level within its territory and issue the corresponding diplomas and licences to graduates;
  - b) cover related expenses by charging a course fee;
  - c) apply for additional UEFA coaching diploma levels for inclusion in its domestic coach education programme;
  - d) apply for a higher membership status at any time;
  - e) require the head coach and technical staff of the teams taking part in its domestic competitions to hold an appropriate, valid UEFA coaching licence or equivalent qualification;
  - f) require an appropriate, valid UEFA coaching licence or equivalent qualification for anyone exercising any coaching activities on its territory;
  - g) ask UEFA to recognise the competence of a coach educated by a non-convention party where no operational agreement applies, so that they can coach on the convention party's territory;
  - h) assess whether the competence of an ICP graduate is equivalent to that of a UEFA diploma holder pursuant to a transparent, objective and non-discriminatory process and, if so, recognise their competence at that level;
  - i) in the event that its convention membership status is downgraded, submit a re-evaluation request within three months in order to regain its previous status;
  - j) submit a written proposal for amendments to the present convention;
  - k) organise, with UEFA's prior approval, a special course for long-serving professional players combining the content of either:
    - i) the UEFA C diploma course and the UEFA B diploma course;
    - ii) the UEFA C or UEFA Futsal C diploma course and the UEFA Futsal B diploma course, or
    - iii) the UEFA B diploma course and the UEFA A diploma course;
  - l) open a disciplinary investigation into and/or suspend a coach or a coach educator;
  - m) revoke a UEFA coaching diploma and/or licence;
  - n) inquire with UEFA or another convention party and be informed whether a coach has been suspended or had their UEFA diploma or licence revoked in the past;
  - o) withdraw from the present convention at any time by informing UEFA.
- 2 Each convention party has a duty to:
  - a) appoint a coach education director or technical director fully dedicated to coach education and development, coach educators with the necessary qualifications and experience, a person with responsibility for futsal coach education and a person with responsibility for pathways for female coaches, all with due regard paid to diversity and equal representation;
  - b) provide UEFA with an organisation chart including all staff involved in coaching matters and their job descriptions, upon request;
  - c) establish and monitor its national education programmes for coaches and coach educators, and continuously develop these programmes with a view to increasing the number of male and female coaches and coach educators with recognised qualifications;
  - d) organise regular courses at all UEFA coaching levels for which it has authorisation, as well as further education courses (seminars, workshops, symposiums, etc.) for holders of a UEFA coaching diploma/licence or an equivalent diploma issued by a sister confederation, ICP graduates with equivalent qualifications and coach educators, and vet all candidates for these courses;
  - e) ensure that its courses are of benefit to coaching on its territory;
  - f) tailor the number of coaching courses to its own needs and the demands of its clubs and candidates, facilitating access to courses for as diverse an audience as possible and placing greater emphasis on the quality of such courses than on the quantity;
  - g) publish the course calendar on its website;
  - h) inform UEFA of any fees charged for courses, upon request;
  - i) provide information about coach education matters to its affiliated clubs and coaches, candidates, other convention parties and UEFA;
  - j) immediately inform UEFA in writing of any issues and any changes to the domestic coach education programme, for example: when a new technical director or coach

education director is appointed, so that UEFA may appoint an evaluator to review the convention party's national coach education programme; when a partnership agreement is terminated, so that UEFA can decide on the consequences for the UEFA coaching diploma holders concerned; or when a disciplinary investigation is opened, a coach is suspended or a coach's UEFA diploma or licence is revoked;

- k) publish the membership status of each convention party, as established and updated by UEFA, on its website and in its own official language(s) within 30 working days of confirmation by UEFA;
- l) inform its clubs and coaches of any changes to its convention membership status and the consequences for UEFA coaching diploma/licence holders and students;
- m) maintain a database that contains the following information on each of its registered diploma and licence holders and coach educators: surname, first name, sex, date and place of birth, place of permanent residence, nationality, language(s) spoken, diploma(s) with date of issue, licence number, validity and expiry date, and date and place of further education attended, and provide this information to UEFA upon request;
- n) settle all issues regarding coach education with the third parties concerned, e.g. regional associations, coaches' unions/associations, state authorities and ICPs, with the support of UEFA if need be;
- o) issue UEFA coaching diplomas and licences in compliance with the present convention and any instructions from UEFA and submit its national template to UEFA for approval;
- p) immediately and fully recognise all UEFA diplomas and licences issued by any other convention party as equivalent to its own;
- q) immediately and fully recognise any equivalent qualification, provided that the individual recognition of competence procedure was successful;
- r) use UEFA branding in compliance with the latest instructions issued by UEFA;
- s) invest the financial incentive allocated by the UEFA HatTrick programme for implementing the present convention in its coach education programme, and submit an annual plan and report to UEFA on the coach education programme and the exact use of the incentive;
- t) respect UEFA's rights as defined in the present convention, as well as any decision taken by UEFA on the basis of the present convention.

## Article 7 – Recognition of equivalent qualifications

- 1 ICP graduates have the right to apply to have their competence recognised under the UEFA Coaching Convention.
- 2 The application must be sent to the convention party in whose territory the qualification was obtained unless the Jira Panel approves a reasoned request to conduct the recognition procedure from another convention party. Such requests may not be unreasonably refused. The convention party will give the applicant a clear timeframe for the recognition procedure and the final decision.
- 3 Convention parties are encouraged to provide at least one window for submitting applications each year.
- 4 The convention party will review the application in a transparent, objective and non-discriminatory manner and apply the standards set out in this convention while taking due account of legitimate variations in individual convention parties' course criteria.
- 5 If the convention party recognises the competence of an ICP graduate as being equivalent to that of a UEFA diploma holder, it then informs the Jira Panel of its decision.
- 6 The recognition of competence will be issued on a UEFA template by the convention party concerned.
- 7 All convention parties are required to recognise an equivalent qualification and to treat its holder in the same manner as the holder of a UEFA diploma. The same applies with regard to further education.
- 8 The Jira Panel or any convention party has the right to raise concerns about an equivalent qualification. The Jira Panel will then re-evaluate the competence of the individual in question. The recognition will be suspended pending the completion of this re-evaluation.
- 9 If a convention party or the Jira Panel refuses to recognise an applicant's competence, they must provide their reasons in writing. Any such decision must be capable of appeal before an independent arbitral or judicial body or, in the case of any decision by the Jira Panel, before the Court of Arbitration for Sport.



### III. COURSE STANDARDS

## Article 8 – Reality-based learning

- 1 Each course organised under the present convention consists of interactive, reality-based education that:
  - a) favours learning in the club context, using knowledge, skills, experience and attitude to deal with realistic situations in football and futsal and successfully links education, practice and employment;
  - b) stimulates an attitude of lifelong learning and develops competence through:
    - i) knowledge transfer during the course in practical sessions,
    - ii) work experience (individual and collective learning in the workplace),
    - iii) the learning cycle (activity, reflection, theory building and planning),
    - iv) other concepts (mentoring, distance learning, etc.);
  - c) adopts learner-centred education with adult learning principles and interactive learning methods;
  - d) requires a formative and summative assessment of each student's competence by coach educators (see Article 13).
- 2 UEFA will prepare a syllabus of minimum content for each course organised under the present convention.

## Article 9 – Coach educators

- 1 All UEFA coaching diploma courses must be delivered by coach educators who have a valid national coach educator's qualification that is recognised by UEFA and a valid coaching diploma and licence of at least the same level as the course on which they teach.
- 2 A convention party may allow specialists with specific qualifications, expertise and experience to teach specific sections of a UEFA coaching diploma course if they do not have the UEFA coaching diploma and licence required to deliver the course as a whole.
- 3 For the purposes of the first UEFA coaching diploma course organised by a convention party to achieve a specific convention membership status, UEFA may approve coach educators that hold a coach educator qualification or a coaching diploma and licence at the corresponding level issued by another convention party.



- 4 If an exception to paragraph 1 is made and a UEFA coaching diploma course is delivered by a coach educator who does not have a valid coaching diploma of the same level as the course on which they taught, the convention party may issue them with the corresponding diploma and licence provided that they taught the full course and would have met the admission criteria.



## Article 10 – Organisation

- 1 A convention party organising a coaching course under the present convention must:
  - a) evaluate the need for the course and the demand from candidates on its territory;
  - b) schedule the course in the annual national coaching course calendar;
  - c) set an admission deadline and prerequisites;
  - d) set measurable course objectives;
  - e) define the main coaching topics to be studied;
  - f) draw up a detailed syllabus based on the syllabuses of minimum content provided by UEFA, and a detailed programme (including dates and times);
  - g) state the official course language(s) and provide all course documentation and materials in those language(s);
  - h) set suitable and transparent assessments for each part of the course, as defined by UEFA;
  - i) set a maximum number of students per course and obtain UEFA's prior consent before offering a course for fewer

than eight students, bearing in mind that eight is the minimum considered necessary to ensure effective peer learning and that courses delivered to a single student are not permitted;

- j) define requirements for graduation;
- k) set up an appeals body to deal with any appeals from candidates who fail an aptitude evaluation or students who fail an assessment, and define the procedure, including the deadline for appeal, under which such appeals are to be handled;
- l) set requirements for coach educators and external specialists, including the following ratio of educators to students (i.e. educators who are actively involved in course delivery and student support throughout the course):
  - i) one educator for every 12 students in courses at C or B level,
  - ii) one educator for every 8 students in courses at A or Pro level;
- m) choose a suitable venue with the necessary infrastructure;
- n) provide UEFA coaching licence holders with information about their rights and duties.

- 2 A convention party applying to organise its first course for a particular UEFA diploma must submit the course application form and content to UEFA for approval at least three months before the start of the course. When announcing the course, the organiser must clearly communicate to all candidates that it is a pilot course which will be evaluated by the Jira Panel and become a UEFA course only after successful delivery, subject to the panel's approval.
- 3 A convention party that has limited demand for coach education at any level may, subject to UEFA approval, enter into a partnership agreement with one or several convention parties to deliver a UEFA diploma course jointly. One of the convention parties concerned must have had full membership status for at least three years. The convention parties concerned and UEFA must sign a protocol confirming the partnership and allowing the convention parties concerned to send an appropriate number of candidates to the jointly organised UEFA diploma course; all candidates must meet the admission criteria for that course. The partnership agreement shall specify which convention party issues the UEFA coaching diplomas and licences to the graduates. A UEFA member association that has not signed the present convention may enter into a partnership agreement under the same conditions as a convention party but cannot issue UEFA diplomas and licences to graduates.

## Article 11 – UEFA Pro diploma courses

- 1 A convention party organising a UEFA Pro diploma course must submit the course content, schedule and list of candidates to UEFA for approval in advance (including justification of gender balance if fewer than 10% of candidates are female), and provide UEFA with the details of all graduates on completion.
- 2 Each convention party is eligible to organise a UEFA Pro diploma course once every two years.
- 3 The maximum number of students on a UEFA Pro diploma course is 20.
- 4 The Jira Panel may grant exceptions to paragraphs 2 and 3, upon written and well-founded request.

## Article 12 – Attendance

- 1 A student is, in principle, required to attend 100% of a coaching course. Students are not permitted to join coaching courses that have already started.
- 2 Upon written and well-founded request, a convention party may allow a student to complete missed parts of a course as long as their total absence does not exceed 10% (absences for pregnancy, parental leave and long-term illness are evaluated on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Jira Panel). All missed units must be completed by the end of the subsequent course at the same level.

## Article 13 – Assessment

- 1 A convention party organising a coaching course under the present convention must inform candidates of the mandatory formative and summative assessments for graduation, which must include:
  - a) theory of coaching/management;
  - b) Laws of the Game;
  - c) match analysis, i.e. a practical exercise in which the student analyses a match and produces a report;
  - d) a practical coaching assignment:
    - i) for any C level course, a training session run by the student, either with the student's own team or with players appropriate to the course level,
    - ii) for any course at B level (core or specialist), a training session based on an analysis of the student's own team's game and run by the student in a club

environment, either with the student's own team or with players appropriate to the course level,

- iii) for any course at A level or above (core or specialist), a training session based on the match analysis and run by the student in a club environment with the student's own team,
- iv) for any course at A level or above (core or specialist), managing and leading the team in a match or assisting the head coach in managing and leading the team in a match;
- e) for any course at B level or above, reality-based assignments, i.e. work on a specific coaching scenario or topic based on the required competence profile of a coach;
- f) for any course at B level or above, a work experience or study visit report containing the student's observations and conclusions on the work of a team and its coaches;
- g) logbook of coaching activities and duties on and off the pitch, including reflections relating to men's and women's football/futsal, i.e. a diary of the experiences acquired by the student during the course;
- h) other assessments of the student's competence in football/futsal-specific areas, as defined in the syllabuses of minimum content provided by UEFA.

- 2 In its national coach education programme, the convention party must define the conditions under which a student who fails an assessment may repeat it. No student may repeat an assessment more than twice within one year of the first failure.

## Article 14 – Graduation

A convention party organising a coaching course under the present convention must:

- a) give each student the results of their assessments, including feedback on their engagement with the course;
- b) give each graduate the relevant UEFA coaching diploma and licence within 30 working days of the end of the course;
- c) if applicable, send a copy of the UEFA coaching diploma and licence to the convention party that issued the previous UEFA coaching diploma and licence to the student concerned.



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#### IV. UEFA COACHING DIPLOMA COURSES



## Article 15 – UEFA coaching diploma courses pathway

An overview of the UEFA coaching diploma courses pathway is provided in Annex A to the present convention.

## Article 16 – Admission criteria for all UEFA coaching diploma courses

- 1 To be admitted to a UEFA coaching diploma course, candidates must:
  - a) possess sufficient spoken and written skills in the official course language(s);
  - b) meet the organiser's admission criteria, which should include an aptitude evaluation;
  - c) submit all admission documents required by the course organiser;
  - d) demonstrate that they will have access to a team of the required level during the course to complete their practical coaching assignments;
  - e) have no record of criminal offences incompatible with the coaching profession.
- 2 To ensure the development of coaching and coaches on its territory, the course organiser must reserve:
  - a) at least 10% of places for female candidates who meet the admission criteria. If fewer than 10% of the candidates who meet the organiser's admission criteria are women, the course organiser may accept applications from women who do not meet the criteria under Article 16(1)(b) above but who still meet UEFA's minimum further admission criteria;
  - b) 30–50% of places for locally trained coaches. Places reserved on UEFA C, UEFA Futsal C, UEFA Goalkeeper B and UEFA Fitness B diploma courses may be allocated to candidates that have been either locally trained or residing in the convention party's territory for a minimum of three of the previous five years. Any course on which fewer than 30% of places are reserved for coaches who meet the locally trained/residency requirements must obtain the prior approval of the Jira Panel to be recognised as a UEFA diploma course.
- 3 Any candidate whose UEFA diploma and licence was issued by another convention party must submit a completed cross-border form as set out in Annex B to the present convention.
- 4 A coach whose UEFA coaching diploma or licence has been revoked is barred for at least three years from attending a UEFA coaching diploma course to reobtain their diploma/licence.

- 5 The course organiser may require candidates to:

- a) demonstrate that they are sufficiently healthy and fit to take part in the course; or
- b) hold the convention party harmless from any injury claims relating to their attendance.

- 6 The course organiser may exempt students from physical involvement in practical sessions of a UEFA coaching diploma course on presentation of a medical certificate.

## Article 17 – Further admission criteria for UEFA B diploma courses

- 1 To be admitted to a UEFA B diploma course, candidates must hold a valid UEFA C licence and have completed a minimum of six months' experience as a head or assistant coach by the B diploma course start date.
- 2 Long-serving professional players who have played at least seven full seasons in the top division or in a fully professional league and wish to enter the UEFA coaching diploma courses pathway at the UEFA B diploma level may do so without holding a UEFA C licence or having six months' coaching experience.

## Article 18 – Further admission criteria for UEFA A diploma courses

To be admitted to a UEFA A diploma course, candidates must:

- a) hold a valid UEFA B licence;
- b) have completed at least one year's experience, after graduating with the UEFA B licence, as a head or assistant coach in 11-a-side football.

## Article 19 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Pro diploma courses

To be admitted to a UEFA Pro diploma course, candidates must:

- a) hold a valid UEFA A licence;
- b) have completed at least one year's experience, after graduating with the UEFA A licence, as a head coach at elite youth or senior amateur level, or as an assistant coach in professional football.

## Article 20 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Youth B diploma courses

To be admitted to a UEFA Youth B diploma course, candidates must hold a valid UEFA B licence.

**Article 21 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Elite Youth A diploma courses**

- 1 To be admitted to a UEFA Elite Youth A diploma course, candidates must:
  - a) hold a valid UEFA Youth B licence and have completed at least one year's experience as a head or assistant coach since graduating with the UEFA Youth B licence; or
  - b) hold a valid UEFA A licence.
- 2 To be admitted to a combined UEFA A and Elite Youth A diploma course, candidates must:
  - a) hold a valid UEFA B licence; and
  - b) have completed at least one year's experience, after graduating with the UEFA B licence, as a head or assistant coach in 11-a-side football.

**Article 22 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Futsal B diploma courses**

- 1 To be admitted to a UEFA Futsal B diploma course, candidates must:
  - a) hold a valid UEFA Futsal C licence or a valid UEFA C licence; or
  - b) hold a valid national futsal coaching certificate representing at least 60 hours of futsal coach education; and in both cases
  - c) have completed a minimum of six months' experience as a head or assistant futsal coach by the B diploma course start date.
- 2 Long-serving professional players who have played at least seven full seasons in the top futsal division and wish to enter the UEFA coaching diploma courses pathway at the UEFA Futsal B diploma level may do so without holding a UEFA Futsal C licence, a UEFA C licence or a national futsal coaching certificate or having six months' coaching experience.

**Article 23 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Futsal A diploma courses**

To be admitted to a UEFA Futsal A diploma course, candidates must:

- a) hold a valid UEFA Futsal B licence; and
- b) have completed at least one year's experience, after graduating with the UEFA Futsal B licence, as a head or assistant futsal coach.

**Article 24 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Goalkeeper B diploma courses**

To be admitted to a UEFA Goalkeeper B diploma course, candidates must:

- a) hold a valid UEFA C licence; and
- b) have completed at least six months' experience, after graduating with the UEFA C licence, as a goalkeeper coach.

**Article 25 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Goalkeeper A diploma courses**

To be admitted to a UEFA Goalkeeper A diploma course, candidates must:

- a) hold a valid UEFA Pro licence; or
- b) hold a valid UEFA B licence and a valid UEFA Goalkeeper B licence; and in both cases
- c) have completed at least one year's experience, after graduating with the UEFA Goalkeeper B licence or UEFA Pro licence, as a goalkeeper coach in 11-a-side football.

**Article 26 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Fitness B diploma courses**

To be admitted to a UEFA Fitness B diploma course, candidates must:

- a) hold a valid UEFA C licence or UEFA Futsal C licence;
- b) have completed at least six months' experience, after graduating with the UEFA C or UEFA Futsal C licence, as a fitness coach in football or futsal; and
- c) have bachelor-level knowledge of sports science or exercise science.

**Article 27 – Further admission criteria for UEFA Fitness A diploma courses**

- 1 To be admitted to a UEFA Fitness A diploma course, candidates must:
  - a) hold a valid UEFA Fitness B licence;
  - b) have completed at least one year's experience, after graduating with the UEFA Fitness B licence, as a fitness coach in 11-a-side football or futsal; and
  - c) have bachelor-level knowledge of sports science or exercise science.

- 2 For a transitional period of three years from the launch of its first UEFA Fitness B or Fitness A diploma course, a course organiser may offer experienced fitness coaches direct access to a UEFA Fitness A diploma course if they:
  - a) have bachelor-level knowledge of sports science or exercise science; and either
  - b) have at least seven years' experience as a fitness coach in the top division, a fully professional league or an elite youth league in football or in the top division in futsal; or
  - c) hold a valid UEFA B licence and have completed at least one year's experience, after graduating with the UEFA B licence, as a fitness coach in a 11-a-side football or futsal.

## Article 28 – Duration and content

- 1 For each UEFA coaching diploma course, the convention party must define the following:
  - a) Hours of education in total
  - b) Hours of theory and practice in the classroom
  - c) Hours of practice outside the classroom, including work experience
- 2 The table below specifies the minimum contact hours of each UEFA coaching diploma course organised by a convention party. This duration provides a framework for reality-based learning, including guided interactive content
  - delivered and monitored by coach educators (in person or online) and practical work experience.
  - 3 The coach profile and minimum content of each UEFA coaching diploma course are specified in the syllabuses provided by UEFA, which cater to both the men's and the women's game.
  - 4 The minimum duration of any course at A level is six months. The course must include micro-group work overseen by coach educators in the participants' own work environments.
  - 5 A UEFA Pro diploma course must be spread over a minimum of 12 months.
  - 6 For blended learning to be implemented effectively in coaching courses, convention parties must ensure that it meets the following criteria:
    - a) Credibility: setting clear expectations, shaping policy and quality management
    - b) Interactivity: using various tools to drive engagement
    - c) Personalisation: offering personalised learning activities and regular feedback customised to students' individual needs
    - d) Productivity: monitoring and supporting students' progress, and deepening their understanding of the course content

	UEFA C	UEFA B	UEFA A	UEFA Pro
Minimum contact hours in total	60	120	180	360
Minimum hours of theory and practice in the classroom (in person or online)	30	60	90	140
Minimum hours of practice outside the classroom (e.g. pitch, gym), including work experience	30	60	90	220

	UEFA Futsal C	UEFA Futsal B	UEFA Futsal A
Minimum contact hours in total	60	120	180
Minimum hours of theory and practice in the classroom (in person or online)	30	60	90
Minimum hours of practice outside the classroom (e.g. pitch, gym), including work experience	30	60	90

	UEFA Youth B	UEFA Elite Youth A	Combined UEFA A and UEFA Elite Youth A
Minimum contact hours in total	60	120	300
Minimum hours of theory and practice in the classroom (in person or online)	30	60	150
Minimum hours of practice outside the classroom (e.g. pitch, gym), including work experience	30	60	150

	UEFA Goalkeeper B	UEFA Goalkeeper A	UEFA Fitness B	UEFA Fitness A
Minimum contact hours in total	60	120	120	180
Minimum hours of theory and practice in the classroom (in person or online)	20	36	60	90
Minimum hours of practice outside the classroom (e.g. pitch, gym), including work experience	40	84	60	90



## V. SPECIFIC COURSES FOR LONG-SERVING PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS

## Article 29 – Admission criteria for courses specifically for long-serving professional players

To be admitted to a course intended specifically for long-serving professional players, candidates are:

- a) not required to hold a UEFA C licence or a UEFA Futsal C licence; and
- b) exempted from the six-month coaching experience requirement.

## Article 30 – Further admission criteria

- 1 To be admitted to a combined UEFA C and UEFA B diploma course, candidates must have been registered for at least full two seasons with a club in the top football division or in a fully professional football league of a FIFA or UEFA member association.
- 2 To be admitted to a combined UEFA C or UEFA Futsal C and UEFA Futsal B diploma course, candidates must have been registered for at least two full seasons with a club in the top futsal division of a FIFA or UEFA member association.
- 3 To be admitted to a combined UEFA B and UEFA A diploma course, candidates must have been registered for at least seven full seasons with a club in a fully professional football league or in the top women's division of a FIFA or UEFA member association.

## Article 31 – Organisation

- 1 With UEFA's prior approval, a convention party may organise a specific course for long-serving professional players if it has applications from at least eight eligible candidates.
- 2 A convention party must submit the combined course content to the Jira Panel for approval at least three months prior to the start of the course.
- 3 The maximum number of students per course is 20.



22

## Article 32 – Duration and content

- 1 Courses intended specifically for long-serving professional players must meet the following requirements in terms of hours of education and content:
  - a) Combined UEFA C and UEFA B diploma courses must comprise at least 180 hours of education, including:
    - i) at least 90 hours of theory and practice in the classroom;
    - ii) at least 90 hours of practice outside the classroom, including work experience.
  - b) Combined UEFA C or UEFA Futsal C and UEFA Futsal B diploma courses must comprise at least 180 hours of education, including:
    - i. at least 90 hours of theory and practice in the classroom;
    - ii. at least 90 hours of practice outside the classroom, including work experience.
  - c) Combined UEFA B and UEFA A diploma courses must comprise at least 240 hours of education, including:
    - i) the full 180 hours of UEFA A diploma course content plus selected UEFA B modules as specified by the course organiser;
    - ii) at least 120 hours of theory and practice in the classroom;
    - iii) at least 120 hours of practice outside the classroom, including work experience.
- 2 Courses intended specifically for long-serving professional players must be spread over:
  - a) a minimum of six months for combined UEFA C and UEFA B diploma courses;
  - b) a minimum of six months for combined UEFA C or UEFA Futsal C and UEFA Futsal B diploma courses;
  - c) a minimum of 12 months for combined UEFA B and UEFA A diploma courses.
- 3 Each convention party is eligible to organise a combined UEFA B and UEFA A diploma course for long-serving professional players once every two years.
- 4 All students on courses intended specifically for long-serving professional players must be working regularly as head or assistant coach of a team in 11-a-side football or futsal during the course.



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## VI. FURTHER EDUCATION (CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT)



### Article 33 – Aim

- 1 Further education organised by a convention party aims to enable qualified coaches and coach educators to update their competences. It also promotes lifelong learning (ongoing access to the renewing of skills and the acquisition of knowledge), brings coaching communities together, enhances social inclusion, and enables peer-to-peer learning in less formal environments and sharing of experiences among coaches and coach educators.
- 2 Competence-based further education for qualified coaches and coach educators must:
  - a) meet the individual needs of coaches and coach educators, in terms of their practical demands and problems;
  - b) meet the needs of the convention party in terms of expected competences and learning outcomes;
  - c) be flexible, diverse and available at different times and places.

### Article 34 – Admission criteria

- 1 Further education is open to holders of a UEFA coaching diploma, a valid national coach educator's qualification or an equivalent diploma issued by a sister confederation and to ICP graduates with an equivalent qualification who wish to have their licences, qualifications or recognition of competence renewed for a further three years.

2 Candidates must submit all admission documents required by the organiser.

3 Candidates must have sufficient spoken and written skills in the language of instruction to complete the further education.

### Article 35 – Organisation

- 1 UEFA coaching diploma holders, holders of national coach educator qualifications and ICP graduates with equivalent qualifications must complete at least 15 hours of competence-based further education every three years in order to renew their licence or equivalent qualification.
- 2 Specialist coaches wishing to renew both a core football or futsal coaching licence and a youth, goalkeeper or fitness coaching licence must complete at least 15 hours of further education every three years, at least 50% of which must relate directly to their specialisation.
- 3 Competence-based further education must be regularly scheduled at different times and places every calendar year for holders of the various UEFA coaching diplomas and be delivered by a combination of qualified coach educators and specialists with specific qualifications, expertise and experience.
- 4 Further education run by partners of the convention party must be overseen by the latter.
- 5 A convention party must recognise technical education and development events organised by UEFA as further education for holders of a UEFA coaching diploma, a valid national coach educator's qualification or an equivalent diploma issued by a sister confederation and ICP graduates with an equivalent qualification.
- 6 The organising convention party decides whether an assessment is required.
- 7 Candidates who undertake further education organised by an entity other than the convention party that issued their diploma and licence must check with that convention party that the content is appropriate for the purposes of the licence renewal. Evidence of the key learning outcomes/development points must be submitted alongside the certificate of attendance. The same principle applies to holders of equivalent diplomas issued by sister confederations.



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## VII. ISSUANCE, TRANSFER AND VALIDITY OF UEFA COACHING LICENCES



### Article 36 – Issuance and transfer of licence

- 1 Whenever a licence is issued or renewed, the convention party concerned must update its database of UEFA coaching diploma and licence holders accordingly.
- 2 Whenever a higher UEFA coaching licence is issued by another convention party, it must inform the convention party that issued the original licence so that it can delete the licence holder from its database.
- 3 In exceptional circumstances, the Jira Panel may authorise the transfer of a valid UEFA coaching diploma and licence from one convention party to another.

### Article 37 – Validity

- 1 A UEFA coaching licence is valid for three calendar years, until no later than 31 December three years after it was first issued, e.g. from 25 August 2025 to 31 December 2028.
- 2 When a UEFA coaching licence expires, its holder loses the right to coach and must undertake further education organised by a convention party to be reissued a licence.
- 3 The validity of any UEFA licence is subject to the licence holder's undertaking to adhere to the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of UEFA and the convention party that issued the licence. It may be subject to further conditions defined by the issuing convention party.



## VIII. FINAL PROVISIONS

## Article 38 – Applicable law and disputes

- 1 The present convention is subject to Swiss law.
- 2 The parties to the present convention agree that any dispute arising from its implementation that cannot be settled amicably may only be submitted to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, in accordance with the UEFA Statutes, including for provisional or super-provisional measures, to the explicit exclusion of any state court.

## Article 39 – Languages

- 1 The present convention exists in English, French and German.
- 2 In the event of any discrepancy between the English, French and German versions of the present convention, the English version prevails.

## Article 40 – Adoption, abrogation and transitional rules

- 1 The present convention was adopted by the Executive Committee at its meeting on 16 December 2024 and is open to signature by all UEFA member associations as of this date.
- 2 The present convention fully replaces the previous UEFA Coaching Convention, which is hereby terminated, and any directives thereunder.
- 3 The present convention will enter into force for each UEFA member association on the date it is signed by both UEFA and the association concerned.
- 4 The previous UEFA Coaching Convention, and any directives made thereunder, continues to apply to UEFA member associations that have signed it until the present convention enters into force for them.
- 5 Any UEFA coaching diplomas or licences issued under the previous UEFA Coaching Convention remain valid under the present convention.



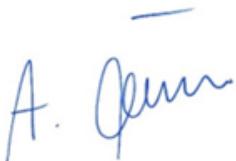
Nyon, Switzerland

17.02.2025

Place

Date

UEFA



Aleksander Čeferin  
President



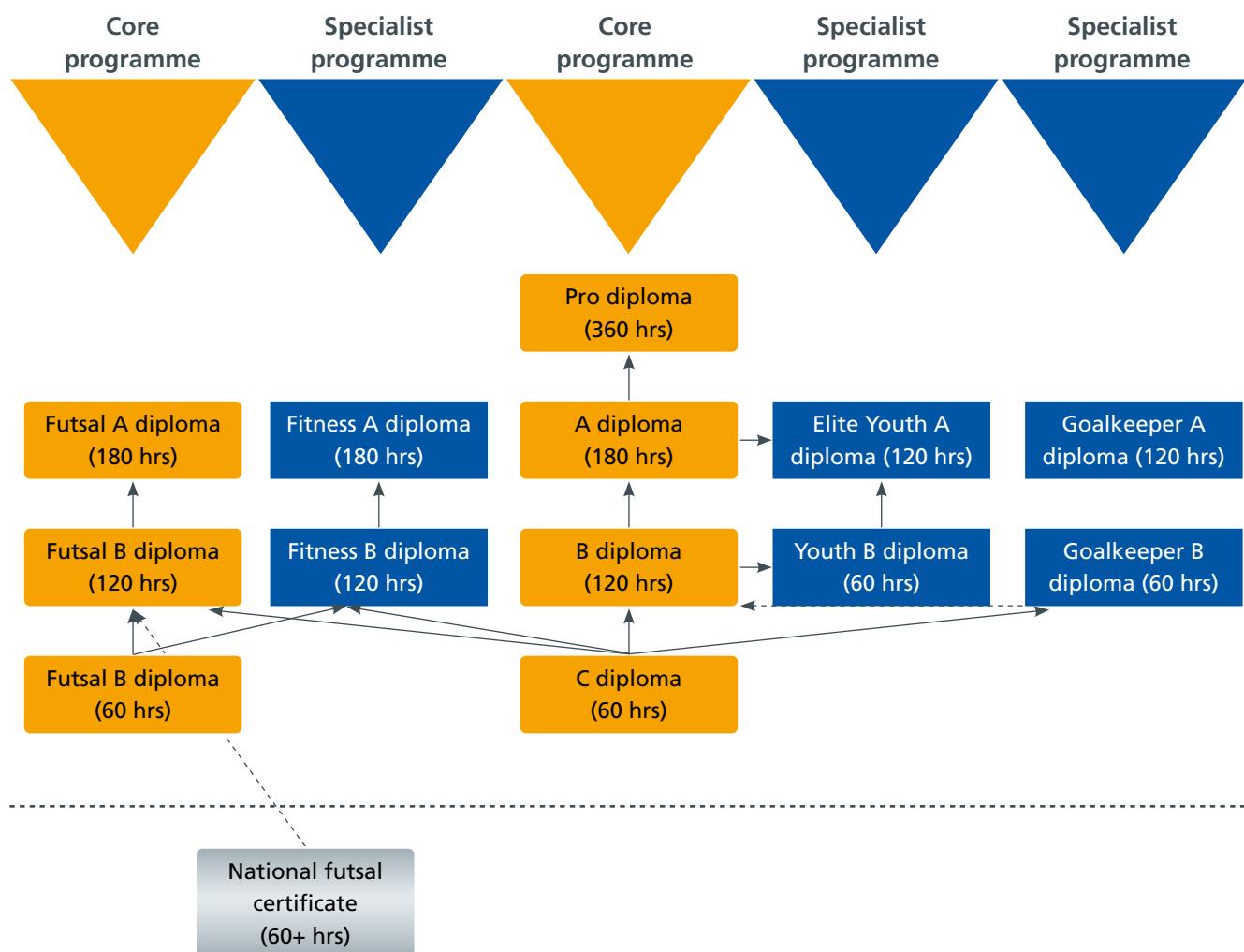
Theodore Theodoridis  
General Secretary

National association name:

.....  
President

.....  
General Secretary

**Annex A – UEFA coaching diploma courses pathway**



**CANDIDATE**

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent place of residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Resident in the receiving association's territory for at least three of the previous five years? Yes  No 

Most recent valid UEFA licence or national coaching certificate: \_\_\_\_\_

Coaching experience since  
graduating with the most  
recent UEFA licence or  
national coaching certificate:

**STEP 1: RECEIVING ASSOCIATION**

Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Course level and start date candidate is applying for: \_\_\_\_\_

We confirm that the candidate has proven linguistic proficiency in the official course language so that they can take part without the need for an interpreter.

Place and date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and signature, head of coach education \_\_\_\_\_

**STEP 2: ORIGINAL ASSOCIATION (issuer of candidate's most recent UEFA coaching qualification)**

Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: Objection Approval 

Place and date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and signature, head of coach education \_\_\_\_\_

No candidate whose licence was issued by another convention party can be admitted to a UEFA diploma course without submitting a completed cross-border form to the receiving associations prior to the course start.



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