

Media Release

Communiqué aux médias

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**Union des associations
européennes de football**



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More matches – fewer disciplinary sanctions

Last season's statistics reveal greater discipline on Europe's football fields

Figures published today for the 1999/2000 season show that for the first time in five years, the number of disciplinary cases recorded in UEFA competitions has decreased. Although considerably more matches took place than in previous seasons. UEFA's Control and Disciplinary Body dealt with a total of 647 disciplinary cases arising from the 1,441 matches played in all UEFA club and national team competitions during the 1999/2000 season, compared to 790 disciplinary cases in 1,360 matches in the season before.

In contrast, the number of appeals against disciplinary decisions increased slightly from 20 to 22. On seven occasions, UEFA's Appeals Body confirmed the decision of the Control and Disciplinary Body, while six decisions were amended. The remaining appeals were either withdrawn, settled by way of legal compliance or not admitted.

The fines imposed rose to a total of some 3.77 million Swiss francs, i.e. an increase of 250,000 Swiss francs compared with 1998/99, even though fewer fines were in fact imposed (449 compared with 467).

Most fines (59%) were imposed for improper conduct by a team (more than three bookings in a match) or for breach of the instructions pertaining to order and security (29%), i.e. for throwing of missiles, setting off of fireworks, or crowd trouble. The latter type of offence was penalised the most severely in terms of fines (up to 200,000 Swiss francs, while fines averaged just over 8,000 Swiss francs altogether, and 372 of the 449 fines did not exceed 10,000 Swiss francs).

Fewer match-related sanctions on average

In the UEFA club competitions, the number of red cards also decreased, despite the higher number of matches. In the 630 UEFA Champions League, UEFA Cup and UEFA Intertoto Cup matches played over the 1999/2000 season, 128 red cards were shown, i.e. roughly one every fifth match compared to one every 3.4 matches the season before. Most red cards (51%) were the result of two cautions in a match. Proportionally fewer red cards were, however, issued in the UEFA Champions League. A similar trend has also been recorded with regard to yellow cards. The average from all three UEFA club competitions has in fact decreased from 3.64 bookings per match in the 1998/99 season to 3.50 in the 1999/2000 season.

The income from the fines imposed on clubs and national associations is used by UEFA to finance youth football development, as well as for humanitarian projects or aid programmes.

1999/2000 Disciplinary Statistics

Disciplinary cases:

- 1995/96: 986 matches, 395 disciplinary cases, 10 appeals
- 1996/97: 903 matches, 460 disciplinary cases, 12 appeals
- 1997/98: 893 matches, 492 disciplinary cases, 13 appeals
- 1998/99: 1,360 matches, 790 disciplinary cases, 21 appeals
- 1999/2000: 1,441 matches, 647 disciplinary cases, 22 appeals

Appeals (22 in the 1999/2000 season):

- 7 confirmations of the decision taken by the Control and Disciplinary Body
- 6 amendments of the decision taken by the Control and Disciplinary Body
- 3 withdrawals of the appeals
- 2 appeals not admitted
- 4 settlements by way of legal compliance (both parties presenting identical requests)

Fines (total amount of CHF 3,765,800):

- CHF 1,817,300 for improper conduct:
more than three bookings per team
- CHF 1,309,500 for lack of order and discipline in the stadium:
throwing of missiles, setting off of fireworks, crowd disturbances, etc.
- CHF 256,500 for violation of competition regulations:
illicit number of people on the substitute bench, incidents of a non-sporting nature, ineligible players/officials, insufficient organisation, late kick-off, unauthorised interviews, ticketing matters, violation of provisions such as numbers on players' shirts, advertising on equipment, stadia security directives, etc.
- CHF 382,500 for other cases

Range of fines:

- CHF 0 – 5,000: 221 fines
- CHF 5,001 – 10,000: 151 fines
- CHF 10,001 – 15,000: 28 fines
- CHF 15,001 – 30,000: 36 fines
- CHF 30,001 – 200,000: 13 fines

Bookings/dismissals:

- UEFA Champions League :
1999/2000: 235 matches, 808 yellow cards (Ø 3.44/match), 46 red cards (incl. 23 yellow/red)
1998/1999: 149 matches, 508 yellow cards (Ø 3.41/match), 36 red cards (incl. 18 yellow/red)
- UEFA Cup :
1999/2000: 281 matches, 957 yellow cards, (Ø 3.41/match), 58 red cards (incl. 31 yellow/red)
1998/1999: 205 matches, 757 yellow cards (Ø 3.69/match), 64 red cards (incl. 37 yellow/red)
(in 1998/99, the last edition of the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup produced 95 matches with 346 yellow cards and 21 red cards, incl. 8 yellow/red)
- UEFA Intertoto Cup:
1999/2000: 114 matches, 440 yellow cards (Ø 3.86/match), 24 red cards (incl. 11 yellow/red)
1998/1999: 114 matches, 437 yellow cards (Ø 3.83/match), 38 red cards (incl. 18 yellow/red)

Reasons for dismissals (128 red cards in 630 UEFA club competition matches):

- 65: second yellow card
- 29: assault
- 21: professional foul
- 9: unsporting behaviour
- 4: dissent