



2021-2022 European Club Competitions

Entry and seeding

The results of the clubs from the last 3 European Club Competitions' seasons will be used for the 2021-2022 European Club Competition' seeding.

Result points allocation: from the 2018-2019 season 20%, 2019-2020 season 30% and 2020-2021 season 50%.

In case of equality in total points for clubs in important positions at the seeding, the most recent result will decide, if equal the result in the previous season, if still equal the result in the season before that. If still equal, a draw will be done.

Limitation* of teams per national Association for TTCL is 4 and for ECLW is 4.

The Europe Cup winner from the current season is directly qualified for Champions League of the coming season.

*If the Europe Cup winner club's Association has already reached its quota 4 in Champions League then this Association's quota is 5.

The Europe Cup winner from the preceding season will be positioned as last team in the seeding before the wild cards' teams in case this team is not positioned higher by the European Club Ranking.

Wild cards for up to 2 clubs may be given by ETTU / management boards for clubs wishing to join the Champions Leagues (up to 2 TTCL and up to 2 ECLW) but not ranked high enough to reach a Champions League position by seeding.

Clubs asking for wild cards shall meet the following criteria in order to be accepted:

1. show evidence of their playing venue to meet all directive criteria (not only venue related)
2. show evidence (contract) of their top 3 players who will play ECC
3. agree to pay a "buy in" of 10.000 € in addition to the entry fee, in case of "new clubs".

Wild cards in Champions Leagues can only be given if the demanding club's national Association's quota (4) has not been achieved (clubs seeded 1-22 or 23).

These clubs will be seeded number 24 (in case of 1) or numbers 23 and 24 (in case of 2). Teams seeded 17-24 can participate in the CL but not mandatory i.e. they are not obliged to compete in CL group stage 1 and may directly start at Europe Cup group stage 1 (each team seeded 17-24 can decide if start in CL or Europe Cup).

Wild cards for up to 2 clubs may be given by ETTU / management boards for clubs wishing to join the Europe Cups (up to 2 Europe Cup men and up to 2 Europe Cup women) but not ranked high enough to reach a Europe Cup position by seeding.

Clubs asking for wild cards shall meet the following criteria in order to be accepted:

1. show evidence of their playing venue to meet all directive criteria (not only venue related)
2. show evidence (contract) of their top 3 players who will play ECC

These clubs to start in the 1st group stage in Europe Cup.

Clubs applying for wild card, deadline 17.6.2021.

Clubs to register their team, deadline 23.6.2021.

Clubs to register their players, deadline 16.8.2021.

The entry fees for the European Club Competitions:

250€ for men and women teams starting in the Europe Trophy

400€ for men and women teams starting in the Europe Cup

600€ for men and women teams starting in the Champions League stage 1

900€ for men and women teams starting in the Champions League stage 2

Eligibility

To define player nationality, ETTU will use the nationality as provided by the players' passports.

A club can register up to 2 non-European players. In a team match up to 1 non-European player is entitled to play but the second non-European player, if given, can be only nominated as "reserve player" for replacing the other non-European player.

Eligibility players for the final stage:

In order to be eligible to compete in the semi-finals and finals, a player shall have at least 2 participations at team matches in the period before (group stages until quarter finals included) i.e. at least participated or having been present in the venue at 2 team matches minimum in total. No exception can be made.

Competition structure

Champions League (men and women) to start with a first round (group stage 1) with teams seeded 9-24 who play 4 groups of 4, in case 1 or more teams seeded 17-24 will not start in CL, the groups composition will be adapted.

The 4 top seeds (9-12) shall be drawn in position 1 of each group, the next 4 from the seeding list in position 2 of each group etc.

The 4 groups will be played by single round-robin during 2-3 days at 1 location for each group.

The 4 group stage 1 3^{rds} and 4^{ths} are relegated to the Europe Cup group stage 1. The winners and runners-up are placed on position 3 and 4 of the Champions League groups (group stage 2).

Teams seeded 1-4 are positioned 1st in the groups of group stage 2 and teams seeded 5-8 are positioned 2nd in the groups of group stage 2. Teams seeded 1-4 have priority in hosting their respective group at group stage 2 provided they meet the criteria of hosting.

Playing mode group stage 2 (4 groups of 4 teams each):

Option A (if impact by Covid but no full lockdowns and impact by the international calendar): the 4 groups will be played by single round-robin during 2-3 days at 1 location for each group.

Option B (if high impact by Covid and high impact by the international calendar): other options will be considered.

The 4 group stage 2 winners and the 4 group stage 2 runners-up continue in the final stage.

The 4 group stage 2 3^{rds} and 4^{ths} are relegated to the Europe Cup group stage 2 / final 16.

The final stage will be played:

Option A (if impact by Covid but no full lockdowns and impact by the international calendar): the quarter finals, semi finals and finals will be played by home and away matches.

Option B (if high impact by Covid and high impact by the international calendar): a final 8 will be played at 1 location with 2 groups of 4 teams where the group winners compete against the group runners up in a semi final, then final.

Europe Cup (men and women) start with a group stage 1 (4 groups of 5 teams, or less teams) with the 4 CL group stage 1 3^{rds} seeded at position 1 and the 4 CL group stage 1 4^{ths} seeded at position 2. Positions 3, 4 and 5 in each group will be filled by the next 12 teams seeded 25-36*.

The 4 groups in stage 1 will be played by single round-robin during 2-3 days at 1 location for each group.

The 4 group stage 1 winners and the 4 group stage 1 runners up proceed to the second stage / final 16 together with the 8 Champions League group stage 2 3^{rds} and 4^{ths}.

The group stage 1 3^{rds}, 4^{ths} and 5^{ths} are relegated to the Europe Trophy.

Group stage 2 until Final / Final 16 will be played:

Option A (if impact by Covid but no full lockdowns and impact by the international calendar): group stage 2 with 4 groups of 4, the 4 groups will be played by single round-robin during 2-3 days at 1 location for each group. quarter finals, semi finals and finals will be played by home and away matches.

Option B (if high impact by Covid and high impact by the international calendar): a final 16 will be played at 1 location with same system as at option A.

The draw for the Europe Cup stages will be by principle of separation by clubs' national Association as far as possible.

All remaining entered clubs (starting seeded 37*) will be drawn into the Europe Trophy.

This competition will be only played in groups.

Europe Trophy (3rd level competition) to start in 2021 with less obligations to the clubs and played regional.

*if no wild card(s).

Champions League 2021-2022				Option A			Option B
Group stage 1 Each group 1 host		Group stage 2 (4 groups of 4) Each group 1 host (top seeded)		Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Finals	Final 8
				Each round home and away matches			
up to 4 teams seeded 9-24*	2 qualify	S1-4 S5-8 GS1 W GS1 RU	2 qualify	GS2 W G1-4 GS2 RU G1-4			4 GS2 W + 4 GS2 RU 2 groups of 4 GWs vs GRUs SF
up to 4 teams seeded 9-24*	2 qualify	S1-4 S5-8 GS1 W GS1 RU	2 qualify	GS2 W G1-4 GS2 RU G1-4		Winner	
up to 4 teams seeded 9-24*	2 qualify	S1-4 S5-8 GS1 W GS1 RU	2 qualify	GS2 W G1-4 GS2 RU G1-4			
up to 4 teams seeded 9-24*	2 qualify	S1-4 S5-8 GS1 W GS1 RU	2 qualify	GS2 W G1-4 GS2 RU G1-4			

S=Seeded, W=Winner, RU=Runner Up, GS=Group Stage

* teams seeded 17-24 can participate but not mandatory i.e. they are not obliged to compete in CL group stage 1 and may directly start at Europe Cup group stage 1 (each club can decide).

Europe Cup 2021-2022							Option B
Group stage 1	Group stage 2	Option A			Final 16		
		Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Finals			
CL stage 1 3rd CL stage 1 4th 3 teams S25-36	CL stage 2 3rd CL stage 2 4th GS1 W GS1 RU	GS2 W G1-4 GS2 RU G1-4			GS2 - Final at 1 location (same system)		
CL stage 1 3rd CL stage 1 4th 3 teams S25-36	CL stage 2 3rd CL stage 2 4th GS1 W GS1 RU	GS2 W G1-4 GS2 RU G1-4		Winner			
CL stage 1 3rd CL stage 1 4th 3 teams S25-36	CL stage 2 3rd CL stage 2 4th GS1 W GS1 RU	GS2 W G1-4 GS2 RU G1-4					
CL stage 1 3rd CL stage 1 4th 3 teams S25-36	CL stage 2 3rd CL stage 2 4th GS1 W GS1 RU	GS2 W G1-4 GS2 RU G1-4					
CL stage 1 3rd CL stage 1 4th 3 teams S25-36	CL stage 2 3rd CL stage 2 4th GS1 W GS1 RU	GS2 W G1-4 GS2 RU G1-4					

S=Seeded, W=Winner, RU=Runner Up, GS=Group Stage

System of play (already planned at season 2020-2021 but not played as all in tournament format – to delete if no KO stage)

1. Knock-out competition method

The knock-out competition method consists of 2 clubs playing each other where the loser is immediately eliminated from winning the TTCLM/ECLW or the Europe Cup men / women competition and the winner qualifies to the next round. The 2 clubs play 1 two-legged match - also called “Home and Away” match.

In a “Home and Away” match, the winner is the club with more allocated points than the other one.

Allocation of points is as follows:

- a. 3 points for the winner 3:0 or 3:1 of a match,
- b. 2 points for the winner 3:2 of a match,
- c. 1 point for the loser 2:3 of a match,
- d. 0 points for the loser 0:3 or 1:3 of a match

In a “Home and Away” match, there is a tie between the 2 clubs when each club has the same number of allocated points. In case of a tie, the Golden Match procedure is used. The Golden Match will be started 10 minutes after the away match (2nd leg) is over.

The Golden Match consists of 3 games (sets) best of 3. The club winning 2 games (sets) is the winner.

The team captains chose for the Golden Match each 3 players who are according to the directives eligible to play and chose for each player the position 1, 2 and 3. The team captains have to provide their line up for the Golden Match to the Referee within 3 minutes after the regular away match (2nd leg) is over.

The order of play in a Golden Match shall be A1 v B1, A2 v B2, A3 v B3. The Golden Match is over once one club has won 2 games (sets).

SPECIAL NOTE:

At regular team matches, the match shall end when a team has won 3 singles even if the “winning club” is already decided before. Walk overs without proof of injury or illness by a medical doctor present at the match will be penalised. Apart from a financial fine, the club whose player(s) made walk over(s) without acceptance of a medical doctor will get 0 points for that team match.

RESULTS				
Leg 1		Leg 2		Who wins ?
Team A	Team B	Team A	Team B	
3	0	0	3	Tie
3	1	1	3	Tie
3	0	1	3	Tie
3	1	0	3	Tie
3	2	2	3	Tie
3	0	2	3	Wins Team A
3	1	2	3	Wins Team A
3	2	0	3	Wins Team B
3	2	1	3	Wins Team B

In addition, in each individual match, the 5th game (set) should start at 0:0 and play until the first player reaches 6 points (sudden death point at 5:5), 1 service each player in a row.

ECLW, same as TTCLM, will have to use ball kids and multiballs for all matches.

Europe Cup, starting from the quarter finals, have to use ball kids and multiballs for all matches.

Playing schedule

Champions League men and women provisional playing dates:

Stage 1: 15-17.9.2021

Stage 2: 3-7.11.2021

Quarter final 1 and 2: 12-23.1.2022

Semi final 1 and 2: 16-23.2.2022

Final 1: 25-27.3.2022

Final 2: 1-3.4.2022

Europe Cup men and women provisional playing dates:

Stage 1: 22-24.10.2021

Stage 2: 3-5.12.2021 or 10-12.12.2021

Quarter final 1 and 2: 12-23.1.2022

Semi final 1 and 2: 16-23.2.2022

Final 1: 25-27.3.2022

Final 2: 1-3.4.2022

Europe Trophy men and women provisional playing dates:

Round 1: 10-12.12.2021

Round 2: 4-6.2.2022

Alternative date

(or Round 3): 18-20.3.2022

Grand Final: 22-24.4.2022

Dates may be subject to change due to the European and international TT calendar.

Playing clothing (*already integrated at season 2020-2021*)

The European Club Competitions (men and women) opt out from ITTF Regulations for International Competitions for advertisements on players' clothing to allow more space on clothing for advertisement.

Opting out is only for the sizes and total number of advertisements.

Force majeure (*already integrated at season 2020-2021*)

In case of "force majeure"*, the ETTU Executive Board may decide, after consultation with the Management Boards, the Club Competition Official, the Secretary General and Sportradar, on any amendment to the general organisation and planning of the European Club Competitions. Such amendment may come into force also during an ECC season.

*Force majeure is extended to the well-being and safety of all involved parities including the need to guarantee the best possible continuation of the ECC.
