

Regulatory articles for the 2020-2022 European qualifiers play-offs

1. Twelve teams will participate in the play-offs for the FIFA World Cup 2022™, of which ten will be the runners-up from the European qualifiers group stage.
2. To complete the line-up of the play-offs, the two additional teams selected on the basis of the overall UEFA Nations League 2020-2021 rankings (see the UEFA Regulations of the UEFA Nations League 2020/21, Annex D) will be the best-ranked group winners that have neither qualified directly for the final tournament as group winners of the European qualifiers nor entered the play-offs already as group runners-up of the European qualifiers.
3. Once the 12 teams constituting the play-offs have been determined, the six best-ranked runners-up of the European qualifiers group stage will be seeded and drawn to play the play-off semi-final at home against an unseeded team.
4. To compare the rankings between the European qualifiers groups and to determine the six best runners-up, the results of the group runners-up against the teams in sixth place are discarded. The following criteria are applied in the order given:
 - a. higher number of points;
 - b. superior goal difference;
 - c. higher number of goals scored;
 - d. higher number of away goals scored;
 - e. higher number of wins;
 - f. higher number of away wins;
 - g. lower disciplinary points total based only on yellow and red cards received by players and team officials (red card = three points, yellow card = one point, expulsion for two yellow cards in one match = three points);
 - h. access list for the UEFA Nations League 2020-2021 (see the *UEFA Regulations of the UEFA Nations League 2020/21, Annex C*).
5. The play-offs are played in single-leg knockout matches. The UEFA administration compiles the fixture list for the European qualifiers play-offs, including the match dates and kick-off times for all play-off matches.
6. The three play-off paths are formed as follows:
 - a. The six seeded teams are allocated to semi-finals 1 to 6 in the order drawn.

- b. The six unseeded teams complete semi-finals 1 to 6 in the order drawn.
 - c. Play-off path A is formed by semi-finals 1 and 2. The winners of both semi-finals advance to play-off final A.
 - d. Play-off path B is formed by semi-finals 3 and 4. The winners of both semi-finals advance to play-off final B.
 - e. Play-off path C is formed by semi-finals 5 and 6. The winners of both semi-finals advance to play-off final C.
7. For each play-off final, a draw is conducted in advance to determine which semi-final winner will play at home.

The winners of the three play-off finals qualify for the FIFA World Cup 2022.