Background Guide

Union of European Football Associations (UEFA)

1 | Structural reform of the Champions League to promote inter-club unity

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Committee Introduction

The Champions League is one of if not the most prestigious football tournaments in Europe. Founded in 1955 as the European Champion Clubs' Cup, the competition, held annually by the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA), comprises the top teams from the top flights of European football leagues. Teams who qualify for the Champions League must do so through high placement in their league or winning the previous edition of the competition, serving as qualification for the tournament's intense competition and high quality.

The Champions League reform committee consists of representatives from established clubs in the tournament, including 15-time winners like Real Madrid C.F. and recent additions like Bayer Leverkusen. The committee is tasked with ensuring the quality of the games, profitability of the league, and safety of the players.

Through this simulation, delegates will be called upon to consider the current state of football in Europe and predict trends and challenges into the future. The committee will work in a crisis committee style, hence allowing dynamic debate and decision-making processes as suitable for the topic. The delegates will be further allowed to make proposals about and debate changes regarding the structure and format of tournaments, details on financial regulations, and how far clubs from small leagues should be taken on board and represented.

The UEFA crisis committee calls for creative and strategic thinking toward a future for the Champions League. With this in mind, considering the interests of the clubs, players, fans, and broadcasters all entangled within the complex framework of European football politics, it is hard to accomplish based on the very nature of the assignment. It should encourage the delegates to throw themselves into the current issues of the Champions League and use this forum to lobby for reforms that define the future of European football. In that respect, the committee brings a unique blend between sport and politics, hence it allows delegates to delve deep into an investigation on the administration and business of the world's most popular sport. This could be your role in the committee, with even more united and integrated times in the future of European club football so that such an experience truly does become unforgettable and full of impact.

Agenda Introduction

With the 24/25 Champions League season just over, players, staff, and fans have returned home to enjoy a well-deserved rest. However, the UEFA Champions League Committee is bustling with debates on how to improve what is already considered the best football competition in the world.

A major issue that has come to light is the significant financial disparity between teams from different leagues. Despite comprising the “best of the best” from each of Europe’s top leagues, the diverse range of domestic leagues represented in the competition means that teams from larger, more profitable leagues, like the English Premier League, have a significant financial advantage over their foreign counterparts. Notably, wealthier sides are able to maintain large wage budgets and superior squad depth, granting them a substantial competitive edge, especially given the high number of matches in the current UCL format. Despite measures such as FFP regulations, fundamental disparities between different European leagues continue to skew competition in favor of already established outfits. A proposed solution is the implementation of a wage cap for the competition, which would limit the number of high-earning players teams can register for the Champions League. A comparatively less significant change could be the increase in qualification payments that teams receive upon advancing to each stage of the Champions League.

Another issue that has emerged is fixture congestion. Fixture congestion has become a pressing concern in the footballing world, with numerous teams and world-class players, like Rodri, voicing concerns over fatigue and injury risks. The demanding schedule, often exacerbated by domestic competitions and rescheduled fixtures, places significant strain on squads, particularly those with insufficient depth. Players endure grueling schedules with little respite, leading to heightened injury rates and diminished performance levels. Talks of reducing the number of preliminary matches have gained traction as a potential solution to alleviate these pressures. Advocates argue that fewer fixtures will allow clubs to sufficiently rest players, reducing the likelihood of injuries and improving overall match quality. However, skeptics question the feasibility and impact of such a significant change, as reducing the number of matches would considerably increase the importance of each individual result on the overall campaign. The debate revolves around the delicate balance between commercial interests, player welfare, and competitive integrity within the Champions League.

These problems require a major joint response, taking into account the fair treatment of players in the Champions League, the values they pursue, and the conditions necessary for effective club management by club owners and the clubs themselves.

Letter from the Chairs

Dear delegates, welcome to GECMUN XI. My name is Jaehoon (Roy) Song and I will be serving as your Crisis Director for the Crisis 1: Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) committee. I am in my sixth year of MUN, most of which I have spent as a crisis delegate. This is my sixth time chairing overall, and second time as a Director. As an avid Crisis Mun-er, I understand that the unique structure of the committee can pose challenges, especially to those new to the format. That said, the chairing team and I will try our absolute best to ensure that we provide you with the best possible support to guide you through the process. I encourage you to make the most out of this exciting opportunity, and I look forward to meeting you in person.

Welcome to GECMUN XI! My name is Jihoo Kim, and I am honored to serve as your Head Chair for the Crisis 1: Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) committee. With over 6 years of MUN experience and this being my third time chairing, I am thrilled to guide you through this unique and challenging agenda. However, this is our first time running a crisis committee like this, so we're flying blind—fasten your seatbelts! I encourage you all to engage critically and collaboratively, bringing your best ideas and energy to our sessions. Let's work together to make this conference a memorable and enriching experience.

It is my pleasure to serve as your deputy chair for GECMUN XI. I am Grace (Jeonghyeon) Ahn, a sophomore from KISJ. As an experienced delegate and chair for MUN, I am looking forward to your active participation and discussion within the committee room. Our committee consists of cooperative and competitive measures that delegates shall balance in between. Please be reminded that awards do not matter, once you have acquired a knowledgeable experience that can improve your performance in the future. What makes you better as delegates are your many failures you experience in the course of your MUN journey. Please enjoy the conference, do not be stressed, and come prepared to the committee room on the conference day. I am looking forward to meeting you all!

Regards,

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Key Terms

Financial Fair Play(FFP)

A set of regulations established to prevent professional football clubs spending more than they earn in the pursuit of success, and in doing so not getting into financial problems which might threaten their long-term survival. FFP ensures clubs operate within their financial means. Implemented by UEFA, FFp requires club to balance their books, limiting the extent to which they can incur losses and ensuring that financial discrepancies do not undermine the sports' integrity and stability. Clubs must demonstrate financial prudence and sustainability, adhering to specific revenue and expenditure guidelines to participate in UEFA competitions.

Transfer

The permanent sale of a player from one club to another. This process generally includes the purchasing club remitting a transfer fee to the selling club, negotiating and finalizing a new contract with the player, and fulfilling requisite registration and medical protocols. Transfers are primarily executed during specific periods known as transfer windows and may be either permanent or on a temporary loan basis.

Transfer fee

The money paid by one club to another to purchase a player of theirs. A club can accept, negotiate, or reject a transfer offer. This fee compensates the selling club for the player's contract and is often negotiated based on the player's market value, skill level, and potential in the case of prospects/youth players. The transfer fee is a crucial part of the transfer process and must be agreed upon by both clubs for the transfer to proceed.

Release clause

A sum of money, sometimes included in players' contracts, that when met by another team, leads to the automatic transfer of a player. This clause sets a predetermined fee that, if paid by a prospective club, compels the current club to allow the player to enter into transfer negotiations. This inclusion of a release clause provides players with an opportunity to move clubs without prolonged transfer negotiations, while also ensuring the current club receives a specified compensation. It serves as a protective measure for both players and the club, establishing clear financial terms for potential transfers.

Loan

The temporary 'loaning' of a player from one club to another for a set duration of time. After the loan period elapses, the player returns to their previous club. During the loan, the receiving club often covers the player's wages and sometimes even pays a loan fee to the parent club. Loans can benefit both clubs and the player, providing game time and experience for the player while helping the receiving club fill short-term squad needs.

Loan fee

The money paid by one club to another to loan a player of theirs. A club can accept, negotiate, or reject a loan offer. The loan fee is agreed upon during negotiations and compensates the parent club for temporarily losing the player's services. This fee, alongside the player's wages, is typically covered by the receiving club, and it allows the partent club to benefit financially while the player gains valuable playing experience.

Relegation

Relocation of the worst performing teams to a lower division. Relegation is not permanent. Teams that finish at the bottom of their league standings are moved to a lower tier for the next season, where they compete with other teams in that division. The relegated teams have the opportunity to earn promotion back to the higher division by performing well in the subsequent season. This system maintains competitive balance and ensures that eams strive for excellence throughout the season.

Promotion

Relocation of the best-performing teams to a higher division. Promotion is not permanent, as teams must continue to perform competitively to maintain their position in the higher division. Achieving promotion often entails finishing at or near the top of the standings in the lower division, thereby earning the right to compete against higher-caliber teams in the league above. This process encourages competition and provides an opportunity for clubs to advance to more prestigious levels within the football hierarchy.

Play-offs

Series of matches held at the end of a league season to determine promotion, relegation, or other significant outcomes when teams are closely matched in the standings. Typically involving teams that finish near each other in the league table, play-offs provide a structured pathway for additional teams to achieve promotion or avoid relegation. The format varies but often includes semi-finals and a final match to decide the ultimate winner, with the victorious tema securing the desired outcome, such as promotion to a higher league or avoiding relegation to a lower one.

Historical Background

1955 - Creation of the European Cup

The European Cup, established in 1955 by the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA), marked the birth of competitive continental club football in Europe. This knockout tournament brought together the champions of various domestic leagues, allowing them to compete for the title of the best club team in Europe. The format emphasized direct elimination, fostering high-stakes matches that captured the attention of fans across the continent and set the foundation for future European competitions.

1992 - Rebranding to UEFA Champions League

In 1992, the European Cup was rebranded as the UEFA Champions League, signaling a new era for the competition. The format was overhauled to include a group stage preceding the knockout rounds, allowing teams to play multiple matches against different opponents before elimination. This change increased the number of participating teams and matches, enhancing the tournament's appeal to a broader audience and paving the way for its growth into one of the most prestigious competitions in football.

1997 - Expansion of the Group Stage

The group stage saw its first major expansion in 1997, as UEFA allowed more teams from stronger domestic leagues to qualify for the competition. For the first time, clubs finishing second in highly competitive leagues were given a chance to compete in the Champions League, broadening its reach and further elevating its status as a showcase of Europe's best football talent.

1999 - Introduction of the Second Group Stage

In 1999, a second group stage was introduced, following the initial group matches. This format allowed the top teams to play even more games against elite competition before reaching the knockout rounds. Although it provided more high-profile matches, the increased number of fixtures added scheduling challenges. This system remained in place until 2003, when UEFA decided to revert to a simpler format.

2003 - Reversion to a Knockout Phase

To address fixture congestion and enhance competitiveness, UEFA replaced the second group stage with a direct knockout phase in 2003. This streamlined format meant that the first group stage would lead directly into the round of 16, creating more intense and unpredictable matchups. The change was welcomed by fans and clubs alike, as it struck a balance between maintaining high-quality competition and avoiding an excessive number of games.

2009 - Introduction of the Away Goals Rule

In 2009, UEFA introduced the away goals rule to all knockout-stage matches. This rule added an extra layer of strategy by giving an advantage to teams that scored more goals in their away games if the aggregate score was tied. The rule aimed to encourage attacking play and make away matches more thrilling, becoming a defining feature of the competition for over a decade.

2016 - Expansion of Prize Pool

The 2016 season saw a significant increase in prize money for participating clubs, reflecting the competition's financial success and global popularity. The expanded prize pool provided greater financial incentives, intensifying the drive for clubs to qualify and perform well. This change not only elevated the tournament's competitiveness but also highlighted the growing economic disparity between Champions League clubs and those outside Europe's top leagues.

2018 - VAR Introduction

In 2018, UEFA introduced the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) system during the knockout stages. This technology aimed to assist referees in making critical in-game decisions, such as awarding penalties or determining offside situations, with the goal of reducing errors and ensuring fairness. While controversial at times, VAR brought a new level of scrutiny and precision to the competition, impacting the outcomes of crucial moments.

2019 - Changes in Qualification Process

The qualification process underwent changes in 2019, allowing more teams from Europe's top leagues to gain direct entry into the group stage. This adjustment meant that clubs from competitive leagues no longer had to navigate through earlier qualifying rounds, giving them a better chance to focus on the tournament itself and enhancing the overall quality of the group stage.

2020 - COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 had a profound impact on the Champions League, forcing UEFA to implement temporary changes to the format. Knockout stage ties were reduced to a single match held at neutral venues to minimize travel and risks. Matches were played behind closed doors, significantly affecting revenue and the iconic atmosphere of the tournament. Despite these challenges, UEFA successfully completed the season, showcasing the resilience of football during unprecedented times.

2021 - Abolition of the Away Goals Rule

In 2021, UEFA abolished the away goals rule, fundamentally changing how ties were decided in the knockout stages. If teams were tied on aggregate, matches would go to extra time and, if necessary, a penalty shootout. This decision aimed to simplify the competition's rules and ensure that every goal carried equal weight, though it sparked debates about the tradition and strategy of the tournament.

2024 - Format Change to Swiss Model

The 2024 season introduced a major overhaul to the Champions League group stage, adopting a Swiss model format. Instead of the traditional group setup, each team played ten matches against different opponents, similar to a league system. Teams qualified for the knockout stage based on their overall placement in the standings. This change was designed to increase the variety of matchups and keep fans engaged throughout the group stage, reflecting UEFA's efforts to modernize the competition.

Current State of Affairs

The Champions League has typically been considered the showcase event in pan-European competition—drawing the best players from Europe under one enormous umbrella. Recently, however, there seems to be a growing call for some structural change to the competition due to concerns of competitive imbalance and financial disparities that engender inter-club solidarity.

The structural reform stands higher and more prominent on the agenda than ever before, especially with the domination of wealthy clubs. There are no problems for rich teams to move into the latter stages of the competition regularly. On occasions, this does pose a huge obstacle for small clubs who have yet to have the opportunity to be competitive with these giants on equal terms. It is this widening gap that requires a new system of revenue and resource sharing regarding the event to develop parity in an even level playing field so that every club has a chance to be above one another without mattering the financial clout.

It was all brought to a head during the summer of 2022 by the radical proposals that came to the fore to shock the football world over the establishment of a European Super League made up of none other than the wealthiest of the world's clubs. Their plan incurred the wrath of fans, players, and football associations worldwide who wanted a competition based on merit and inclusiveness, not financial gain. This was further emphasized by the breakup of Super League plans, pointing at that moment to urgent reform of structural issues at UEFA to reorganize the Champions League so that such division would not happen again and to protect the integrity of European football. Recently, there have been a couple of things that the UEFA has done for their aim of trying to solve these problems. These include increasing the number of groups and making a few tweaks to the qualification formats. However, people argue that while these modifications go in the right direction, they claim far-reaching reforms are needed. The Champions League speaks volumes about this age of change, in which the traditional values of European football are being rethought in the modern-day challenge.

One of the biggest challenges is the financial disparity: the amount of money made from the competition is very huge yet it gets distributed very unequally. The inference that can be drawn here is that wealth is concentrated in very few clubs. It hereby undermines competitive balance—the very factor that secures appeal and the sustainability of the sport for a long time into the future. History is not much of an issue for those clubs steeped in heritage in the game, but the competition at the highest level became hard, whether on or off the pitch. These have only been hastened by the prolonged effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. There have been enormous losses throughout Europe, reflecting a financial burden that very well displays the frailty of the system as it is. The call to solidarity and collective action thus could not be better timed as the clubs look toward recovery and reconstruction in the post-pandemic world.

Stances of Parties

Tom Werner

Tom Werner is an American television producer and businessman, currently serving as the chairperson of Liverpool F.C. since 2010. Under Werner, Liverpool have won numerous pieces of silverware including a Champions league trophy in the 2018/19 season and a Premier League trophy in the 2019/20 season. Despite the club's success however, Werner has often come under criticism from supporters due to his reluctance to commit large sums of money to the transfer market.

Florentino Pérez

Florentino Pérez is a Spanish businessman and civil engineer, currently serving as the President of Real Madrid C.F. since 2009. Pérez had previously served a 6 year-long term from 2000 to 2006. Real Madrid has flourished under Pérez winning countless trophies including an incredible seven Champions League trophies and seven La Liga trophies. He is best known for his lavish spending in the transfer market to secure the biggest names in football.

Giuseppe Marotta

Giuseppe Marotta is an Italian football executive, currently serving as the chairperson of Inter Milan since 2024. Marotta has a wealth of experience serving as chairperson, having worked at Italian clubs U.C. Sampdoria and Juventus. He is praised for his time at Juventus, having successfully revitalized the squad with minimal transfer spending. Marotta had previously served as CEO of Sport at Inter Milan, bringing in the likes of Romelo Lukaku and Achraf Hakimi.

Khaldoon Al Mubarak

Khaldoon Al Mubarak is an Emirati businessman, currently serving as the chairman of Manchester City F.C. since 2008. Under Al Mubarak, Manchester City has become one of the most successful clubs in world football, winning the Premier League eight times and their first Champions League. Al Mubarak is best known for dedicating immense amounts of money towards transfers as well as the development of club infrastructure. In addition to the substantial investments, Manchester City has also benefited from the extensive network of clubs they have access to as part of the City football group.

Fernando Carro

Fernando Carro is a German businessman, currently serving as the chairperson of Bayer 04 Leverkusen since 2018. Carro recently led the club to an astonishing Bundesliga title run in which the team finished the season unbeaten. Leverkusen has seen massive development in the past few years despite Carro's conservative approach to transfer spending.

Reinhold Lunow

A medical doctor by profession, Lunow has been a pivotal figure in the club's administration, previously serving as treasurer before ascending to the presidency in 2022. Under his stewardship, Borussia Dortmund has continued to thrive both on the field and in its financial endeavors. His tenure has seen Borussia Dortmund maintain its status as a powerhouse in German football, competing at the highest levels domestically and in European competitions.

Stan Kroenke

Stan Kroenke is an American businessman, currently serving as the owner and chairperson of Arsenal F.C. since 2018, when he acquired full ownership of the club. Kroenke has played a major role in rebuilding Arsenal and restoring it to its former competitive status through the appointment of Mikel Arteta and sumptuous transfer spending. Arsenal have consistently challenged for the Premier League title in the past few seasons.

Joan Laporta

Joan Laporta is a Spanish businessman, currently serving as the president of F.C. Barcelona since 2021. Laporta had previously served a 7 year-long term from 2003 to 2010. Laporta has been widely criticised among the Barcelona fan base for his financial mismanagement, which saw one of their best players in Lionel Messi leave the club. Barcelona have consistently struggled to comply with financial regulations, often being forced to sell players to register new signings. Despite their financial woes, Barcelona remains competitive domestically, having won a Laliga Title in the 2022/23 season.

Gianluca Ferrero

Gianluca Ferrero is an Italian businessman, currently serving as the president of Juventus F.C. since 2023. Ferrero has been unsuccessful in resolving the financial issues surrounding the club, with the club receiving multiple fines, points deductions, and even being banned from the Champions League for financial irregularities under him. The ban further destabilised club finances, forcing Juventus to sell players to cover its losses as a result of being excluded from the Champions League.

Herbert Hainer

A German businessman and the former CEO of Adidas-Group, currently serving as President of F.C. Bayern Munich. Since taking on the role in 2019, he has focused on maintaining the club's dominant position in the Bundesliga and its strong presence in European competitions, thus being re-elected in 2022 with 78% of the votes in favour of him.

Marcel Brands

Marcel Brands is a Dutch businessman, currently serving as the president of PSV Eindhoven. Since assuming the role in 2022, he has concentrated on strengthening the club's competitive edge and fostering youth development to ensure sustained success in Dutch and

European football. Much like many other teams in the Eredivisie, PSV has seen great success from their approach of developing talent to sell to larger clubs for a profit.

Nasser Al-Khelaifi

Nasser Al-Khelaifi is a Qatari businessman, currently serving as the president of Paris Saint Germain F.C. Since taking on the role in 2011, he has overseen the club's transformation into a dominant force in French football and a significant contender in European competitions through extensive spending in the transfer market. Al-Khelaifi has come under criticism for running PSG as a brand rather than a football club.

Peter Lawwell

Peter Lawwell is an ex-CEO of Celtic F.C., currently serving as the chairperson of the club. since taking on the role in 2023. Lawwell played a crucial role in club management during his time as CEO, being tasked with ensuring its financial stability. Celtic, who are historic giants, have achieved significant domestic success under Lawwell, winning numerous league and cup titles and frequently qualifying for the Champions League .

Dursun Özbek

Dursun Özbek is the president of Galatasaray S.K., one of Turkey's most successful football clubs. His leadership has been marked by efforts to strengthen the club's financial health and competitive stature both domestically and in European competitions. Under Özbek, Galatasaray have continued their tradition of purchasing top players past their prime to create an experienced team.

Paolo Scaroni

Paolo Scaroni is the chairperson of A.C. Milan, a legendary football club in Italy. With a background in business and energy sectors, Scaroni brings a wealth of experience to the role. His tenure is characterized by a focus on modernizing the club's operations and restoring its status as a top contender in both Serie A and European football. Despite cutting back on their transfer spending in recent years, A.C. Milan remain one of the most competitive clubs in both the Serie A and the Champions League.

Rui Costa

Rui Costa is a football legend who played for giants such as Barcelona and AC Milan, Costa currently serves as the president of S.L. Benfica since taking over the role in 2021. Benfica is one of Portugal's most storied clubs, and is no stranger to European football. The club is known for their approach in the transfer market: developing young talent and selling them for major profits.

André Villas-Boas

André Villas-Boas is a former manager of major European outfits including Chelsea, Tottenham, and Porto, Villas-Boas currently serves as the chairperson of F.C. Porto since taking over the role recently in 2024. Porto has historically been very successful in Europe, and are perhaps best known for their Champions League victory in the 2003/04 season under legendary manager José Mourinho. Villas-Boas is focused on maintaining Porto's competitive status in the Primeira Liga and on the European stage, leveraging his tactical acumen.

Evangelos Aslanidis

Evangelos Aslanidis is a former doctor, currently serving as the president of A.E.K. Athens since taking over in 2013. Athens were the first Greek team to make an appearance at a Champions League tournament. Under Aslanidis, Athens has continued their dominance in the Greek Super League, consistently qualifying for the Champions League.

Velimir Zajec

Velimir Zajec is a former player and coach, recently appointed as the president of GNK Dinamo Zagreb. Zajec hopes to maintain Zagreb's dominance in the Croatian Football League and its competitiveness in the Champions League. Zagreb are one of Croatia's best teams, producing world class talents such as Luka Modric and Dani Olmo through their fantastic youth development system.

Michael van Praag

Michael van Praag is a Dutch ex-referee currently serving as the chairperson of AFC Ajax. Ajax is one of the most successful clubs in the Champions League, having won it four times. Despite their relatively smaller transfer budget, Ajax have been able to compete at the highest level of European football through their outstanding youth system, which places an emphasis on developing players for the future. The club however struggles to retain talent, with many players leaving to pursue more lucrative careers at larger clubs.

Enrique Cerezo

Enrique Cerezo is a Spanish film producer, currently serving as chairperson of Atlético de Madrid since taking over in 2002. Cerezo took charge of the club following its promotion to Laliga, Spain's top division. Cerezo has guided the club to multiple Laliga and Europa League titles, qualifying for the Champions League with relative consistency in recent years. Although they were unable to win the Champions League during his presidency, they were runners-up in 2013–14 and 2015–16, and reached the semi-finals in 2016–17.

Dmitry Rybolovlev

Dmitry Rybolovlev, a Russian billionaire and businessman, is the president of A.S. Monaco F.C. Since acquiring the club in 2011, he has overseen Monaco's resurgence, including a Ligue 1 title in 2017, and prioritized developing world-class talents. His leadership has positioned the club as a competitive force in both domestic and European football.

Possible Solutions

Reducing the Number of Matches and Increasing Squad Sizes

Fixture congestion, the overload of matches in a short period, is a problem that most, if not all football teams in modern football suffer from. Fixture congestion can be alleviated by restructuring the Champions League format to reduce the total number of matches. This might be achieved through the reduction of the group stage or simplification of the play-off qualification system. Another solution could be to increase the regulation squad sizes to allow for more player rotation. Currently, the Champions League mandates all participating clubs to limit their official squad list to 25 players, 2 of which must be goalkeepers. Larger squads enable teams to manage the demands of a congested schedule more effectively, providing opportunities for younger players to gain experience and ensuring that main players are adequately prepared and rested. However, a potential concern is that increased squad sizes may unfairly benefit larger, wealthier clubs.

Enforcing Stricter FFP Regulations and Transfer Caps

Financial instability in football often arises from clubs overspending on player transfers and wages. Financial instability leads to unsustainable debt levels. In order to address this problem, stricter Financial Fair Play (FFP) regulation can ensure that clubs operate within their financial means, promoting long-term economic growth and stability; these regulations enforce transparency and accountability in club finances. Besides, introducing transfer caps–limiting either the number of players a club can sign or the total transfer fee expenditure–can maintain financial stability. Transfer caps encourage clubs to focus on internal talent development and strategic, responsible signings, fostering a more equitable and competitive nature of sport.

Wage Caps

Although regarded as a drastic solution by many, wage caps have been put forth as a solution to financial disparity within the Champions League. Wage caps would involve a set, universal wage limit for all competing clubs. Clubs would have the freedom to allocate the set wage budget amongst its squad, selecting their players accordingly. A wage cap would reduce the distance between larger and smaller clubs both in terms of squad depth and player quality, making the league more competitive.

Questions to Consider

1. How should non-FFP compliant clubs be punished?
2. What response will supporters have to a decreased/increased amount of fixtures?
3. Will financial stability measure benefit or harm smaller clubs?
4. How can the use of press or press releases be strategic to the committee in making specific deals?
5. What guidelines should be established for the clubs to effectively manage their budgets and avoid financial overspending?
6. How can the transparency in financial dealings including sponsorships be guaranteed?

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