



/r/Soccer

comments

Want to join? [Log in](#) or [sign up](#) in seconds. | [English](#)

32  
Why the changes to the CL format won't be as small as it has been said and the nations between 5th and 15th in the ranking will most likely be the ones to suffer because of it

News have came out the last days that the champions league will probably have a slightly different format in the 2017/2018 season. The top 4 leagues will have more spots available for them: 4th placed of Spain, Germany and England will qualify directly instead of having to go through a play-off. Italy's third placed will qualify directly instead of having to face a play off also, plus Italy will get an extra spot for their 4th best team.

Now, that doesn't seem much considering the CL group phase has 36 teams. However, let's analyse how the spots are divided right now between the countries. The blue bars on this [graph](#) tell you how many spots each league get this season. For example, Turkey got 1.25 spots this year because the champion qualifies directly (1 spot) and the 2nd placed has to go through 2 k.o. rounds to qualify for the group stage (so 25% to qualify to group stage, 1\*0.25=0.25 spots). Spain has one extra spot because Sevilla won Europa League.

The orange bars, on the other hand, will be the available spots if this proposal goes through. So that's an extra 3 spots for the top 4 leagues (0.5+0.5+0.5+1.5). As far as I know, we don't know yet from where UEFA will take these 3 spots. But my guess is that the nations from 5th (Portugal) to 15th (Turkey) will lose most of those spots because honestly, all nations starting from 16th (Austria) already barely have any spots left to begin with as you can tell by their tiny bars.

The champion of Austria has to go through three k.o. rounds to qualify for Champions League against champions of other countries, having therefore an amazing 1/8=0,125 spots available. The tiny nations (starting from Malta) have even one more k.o. round to go through, so each have 0,0625 spots. I guess UEFA can get 0.5 spots by bringing the last 8 nations with 0,125 spots to the "minnows group". So if they do that that's 2.5 spots to take from nation 5 to 15. This are the spots these nations have:

Nation	1st	2nd	3rd
Portugal	1	1	0,5
France	1	1	0,25
Russia	1	0,25	-
Ukraine	1	0,25	-
Netherlands	1	0,25	-
Belgium	1	0,25	-
Switzerland	1	0,25	-
Turkey	1	0,25	-
Greece	0,25	0,25	-
Czech Republic	0,25	0,25	-
Romania	0,25	0,25	-

From these nations, these teams qualified directly under the current format: Benfica, Sporting, PSG, Lyon, CSKA Moscow, Dinamo Kiev, PSV Eindhoven, Brugge, Basel, Besiktas

These teams have to go through 1 play-off round: Porto

and these teams have to go through 2 play-off rounds: Monaco, Rostov, Shakhtar Donetsk, Ajax, Anderlecht, Young Boys, Fenerbahce, Olympiakos, PAOK, Viktoria Plzen, Astra Giurgiu, Steaua Bucuresti

To make space for 2.5 spots at least some of these things **the majority of these things** will have to happen:

- 5th Nation on the ranking (Portugal this year) will either lose the 0,5 spot for 3rd (Porto) completely or it would at least have to go through an extra play-off round. That would make 0.5 or 0.25 spots available. Or, 2nd placed (Sporting) will have to go through play-offs.
- 6th Nation on the ranking (France this year) will lose the 3rd team completely (Monaco). Or, 2nd placed (Lyon) will have to go through play-offs.
- 7th-11th Nation will probably lose the 0,25 spots for 2nd placed. That would mean no chance for CL instead of the 25% right now for Rostov, Shakhtar Donetsk, Ajax, Anderlecht, Young Boys, Fenerbahce. Or, the champions of these nations (CSKA Moscow, Dinamo Kiev, PSV, Brugge, Basel, Besiktas) will have to start to qualify through play-offs.
- 12th-15th will almost certainly lose the 0,25 spots for 2nd placed. That would mean no chance for CL instead of the 25% for PAOK, Steaua Bucuresti, Sparta Praha.

3 comments

share

all 3 comments

sorted by: [best](#)

[-] [TanqPhil](#) 4 points 7 days ago

It would have been much more accurate to use actual numbers instead of 50 percent at each stage. City vs. Steau is not a 50/50 proposition, and that is true for most of the playoff round. You are overstating the effects once you reach the 7th or 8th ranked countries, since they advance infrequently.

permalink

embed

[-] [nickless\\_](#) [S] 7 points 7 days ago\*

My reasoning was that if 4 teams fight for 1 spot it makes sense to say they were "rewarded" with 0.25 spots for their league campaign. But you do have a point, I shouldn't have said that that means they have 25% to qualify.

However, it's hard to tell the exact odds that, say, the 2nd placed team from Belgium has to qualify. It depends on the other teams that qualified, luck of the draw, form and other factors... So I don't really know how I should implement that factor. But you're right, PAOK being awarded 0,25 of a spot doesn't mean they have 25% chance to qualify.

Anyway, the biggest reason I made the post was to find where UEFA is most likely considering taking spots. Greece losing his 2nd team will hurt them even if they qualify less than 25% of the time.

permalink

embed

parent

[-] [Alxndre\\_](#) 1 point 7 days ago

A lot of work. It will be at the expense of everybody else unfortunately.

permalink

embed

search

this post was submitted on 17 Aug 2016

32 points (85% upvoted)

shortlink: <https://redd.it/4y725j>

username

password

☐ remember me

[reset password](#)

[login](#)

[Submit a new link](#)

/r/Soccer

Attendance: 494,735 (13,120)

Get your team crest from [soccerbot](#).

*News, results and discussion about the beautiful game.*

- Follow [the rules of our community](#)
- Read the [FAQ](#) and [wiki](#)
- Our [submission guidelines](#)
- Create a [match thread \(icons/bars\)](#)
- Discover [related subreddits](#)
- Question? [Message the mods](#)
- Follow us on [twitter](#)

Quick links

[Read](#)

[Match threads](#)

[Post match](#)

[Daily Q&A](#)

[Watch](#)

[Roundups](#)

[Pre match](#)

a community for 8 years

MODERATORS

[message the moderators](#)

[reyofish](#)  
[spinney](#)  
[PrawnSolo](#)  
[9jack9](#)  
[thekrone](#)  
[Rossoneri](#)  
[\\_sic](#)  
[spisska](#)  
[soccerbot](#)  
[AutoModerator](#)

...and 5 more »

< > discussions in /r/soccer

1393 points · 374 comments

[Claudio Bravo joins Manchester City FC](#)

about

[blog](#)  
[about](#)  
[source code](#)  
[advertise](#)  
[jobs](#)

help

[site rules](#)  
[FAQ](#)  
[wiki](#)  
[reddiquette](#)  
[transparency](#)  
[contact us](#)

apps & tools

[Reddit for iPhone](#)  
[Reddit for Android](#)  
[mobile website](#)  
[buttons](#)

<3

[reddit gold](#)  
[redditgifts](#)

Use of this site constitutes acceptance of our [User Agreement](#) and [Privacy Policy \(updated\)](#). © 2016 reddit inc. All rights reserved.  
REDDIT and the ALIEN Logo are registered trademarks of reddit inc.

[Advertise - sports](#)



Cookies help us deliver our Services. By using our Services or clicking I agree, you agree to our use of cookies. [Learn More](#)

I AGREE

