

Abramovich sanctions halt Chelsea sale

Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich has been sanctioned by the UK government, blocking any potential sale of the club. The Russian oligarch announced he intended to depart Stamford Bridge in March

TIMELINE

- Feb 22:** **Abramovich** announces “stewardship and care” of club will be transferred to trustees of Chelsea’s charitable foundation
- Feb 27:** Trustees fail to agree to take control of the club, citing legal liability concerns
- Mar 2:** Abramovich reveals plan to sell Chelsea, with all net proceeds going to victims of war in Ukraine
- Mar 10:** Sanctioned by UK government as part of response to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine – oligarch has all assets frozen, including Chelsea

Move intended to prevent Abramovich making money from Chelsea

CHELSEA: SPECIAL LICENCE

UK government has issued club licence which authorises only limited football-related activities

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Play fixtures, and collect broadcast revenue |  No new ticket sales for upcoming fixtures |
|  Pay staff and player wages, and day-to-day expenditure |  Prevented from signing players or awarding contracts |
|  Season ticket holders can attend matches |  Official club shop closed – merchandise sales stopped |

