



UEFA.direct

N° 101 – 09/2010

Season kick-off in Monaco

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## WE CARE ABOUT FOOTBALL



Official publication of the  
**Union des associations  
européennes de football**

**Chief editor:**  
André Vieli

**Produced by:**  
Atema Communication SA, CH-1196 Gland

**Printing:**  
Artgraphic Cavin SA, CH-1422 Grandson

**Editorial deadline:** 09 September 2010

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Antonio López, captain of Club Atlético de Madrid, lifts the UEFA Super Cup trophy at the end of a match which rounded off the 2009/10 season at the same time as kicking off the new one.

*Photo: Getty Images*



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# Beyond the bright lights of the stadiums



For football to remain the beautiful game, it must be governed by people who are equal to the ever more complex task. To this end, UEFA has created a series of education programmes specially designed with the national associations, and the professionalism of European football governance, in mind.

Since 2004, the KISS programme (or Knowledge and Information Sharing Scenario) has aimed to give UEFA's member association staff opportunities for professional development and to exchange best practice through interactive seminars and an online platform.

UEFA has since started to build on these foundations by designing a new range of courses in keeping with the philosophy of the KISS programme and in collaboration with world-renowned academic partners.

The results are the UEFA certificate and diploma in football management (UEFA CFM and DFM) and the European team sports associations' joint Executive Master in European Sport Governance (MESGO). These pioneering courses' first intake of participants started in September, so I take this opportunity to wish them a successful, rewarding experience!

To cover all angles, UEFA has also launched a research grant programme to support the work of researchers in the field of European football, to ensure it remains the number one sport it is today.

These new courses have all been designed to enable participants to work and study in parallel, to complement their day-to-day professional activities and to meet their unique needs. They incorporate state-of-the-art teaching

methods, including distance learning, and should help our member associations' staff to find fulfilment in their careers as well as giving them academic recognition of their achievements, be it in the form of a certificate, a diploma or even an internationally recognised master's degree.

The knowledge acquired and experience shared within the networks established by these programmes can only be of benefit to our member associations and I look forward to seeing everyone's efforts bear fruit on pitches all over Europe!

*Gianni Infantino*  
UEFA General Secretary



# Plenty of new faces

For the 13th consecutive year, the Principality of Monaco hosted European club football's elite at the end of August for the UEFA Champions League group stage draw.

The Grimaldi Forum was packed on the afternoon of 26 August as the group stage draw for the 2010/11 UEFA Champions League was made. The draw, presided over by the UEFA general secretary, Gianni Infantino, was attended by the best players of the last club season, who were in Monaco to collect their awards, as well as the ambassador for the 2011 final, Gary Lineker.

As the competition was entering the second year of a three-year cycle, access to the group stage was organised in the same way as the previous season: 22 clubs qualified directly in accordance with their national associations' rankings, while the other 10 qualified through two other channels, one providing places to five national champions and the other offering places to five teams finishing near the top of their national championships, but not in first place.

## Eighteen associations represented

Only England are represented by the maximum four clubs. Germany, Spain, France and Italy have three representatives each, the Netherlands, Portugal and Russia two and the other ten national associations one. The total number of national associations represented in the Champions League since it was created in 1992/93 remains unchanged at 31, i.e. 58% of all UEFA member

## THE GROUPS

### Group A

Tottenham Hotspur FC  
FC Twente  
FC Internazionale Milano  
SV Werder Bremen

### Group B

Hapoel Tel-Aviv FC  
Olympique Lyonnais  
FC Schalke 04  
SL Benfica

### Group C

Valencia CF  
Manchester United FC  
Rangers FC  
Bursaspor

### Group D

FC Rubin Kazan  
FC Barcelona  
Panathinaikos FC  
FC København

**Match calendar:** 14 September, 29 September, 20 October, 2 November, 24 November and 7 December.

### Group E

FC Basel 1893  
FC Bayern München  
AS Roma  
FC Spartak Moskva

### Group F

Chelsea FC  
Olympique de Marseille  
CFR 1907 Cluj  
MŠK Žilina

### Group G

AJ Auxerre  
Real Madrid CF  
AFC Ajax  
AC Milan

### Group H

FK Partizan  
Arsenal FC  
SC Braga  
FC Shakhtar Donetsk

**Match calendar:** 15 September, 28 September, 19 October, 3 November, 23 November and 8 December.

associations. Eight of them have been represented every season since 1999/2000, when the number of group stage participants was increased to 32. They are Spain (45 places in total, shared between 11 clubs), England (44/7), Italy (43/7), Germany (36/9), France (33/9), the Netherlands (22/7), Greece (20/3) and Turkey (16/4). At the other end of the scale, it is only the second time a Serbian club has qualified, after FK Partizan in 2003/04, and the third appearance for Slovakia, after 1997/98 (FC Kosice) and 2005/06 (Artmedia Bratislava).

## Six newcomers

As far as the clubs are concerned, six of them will be making their UEFA Champions League debut: SC Braga (Portugal), Tottenham Hotspur FC (England), Bursaspor



Hache/AFP/Getty Images



Sportsfile

(Turkey), Hapoel Tel-Aviv FC (Israel), FC Twente (Netherlands) and MŠK Žilina (Slovakia), the last four of which are national champions. These six newcomers bring the total number of clubs to have participated in the Champions League since the first edition to 119. The most frequent participants are Manchester United FC, now in their 16th season, FC Barcelona and Real Madrid CF (15th), FC Bayern München and AC Milan (14th). One notable absentee this season, FC Porto, has participated 15 times and had been ever-present since 2003/04. Also missing this time round are FC Dynamo Kyiv and PSV Eindhoven, who have each appeared in the competition 13 times, along with Juventus and Olympiacos FC. These last three clubs were also absent last year.

Generally speaking, the list of participants is markedly different to last season, since only 12 of last year's 32 participants are on the starting grid again for the 2010/11 season, demonstrating the current vitality of European club football. At the same time, tradition is still very evident, as illustrated by Group G, where Real Madrid CF, AC Milan and AFC Ajax have, between them, won 20 of the 55 titles awarded since the European Champion Clubs' Cup was inaugurated in 1955/56. ● → [www.uefa.com/uefachampionsleague](http://www.uefa.com/uefachampionsleague)

## 2011 calendar

**Round of 16:** 15, 16, 22 and 23 February (1st legs) and 8, 9, 15 and 16 March (2nd legs)

**Quarter-finals:** 5/6 April (1st legs) and 12-13 April (2nd legs)

**Semi-finals:** 26/27 April (1st legs) and 3/4 May (2nd legs)

**Final:** 28 May in London

### Draws:

17 December: draw for round of 16

18 March: draw for the quarter-finals and semi-finals

## UEFA Champions League bonuses

Although the UEFA Super Cup and the club competition draws top the bill at the season kick-off in Monaco, they are by no means the only events on the programme.

From Wednesday to Friday evening, numerous meetings are held at the hotels and the Grimaldi Forum, be they about the UEFA Super Cup itself – for example in the case of the security meeting – or about match preparations, broadcasting and sponsorship for the season ahead. There are also various media activities, including the president's traditional press conference for journalists from all over Europe, and of course the gala evening at the Monte Carlo Sporting Club.

The Professional Football Strategy

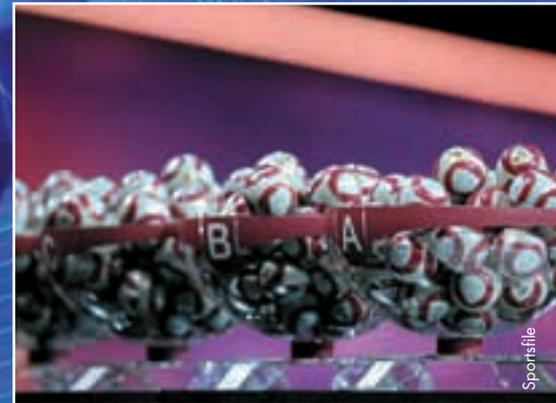
Council also met in Monaco this August, as did the UEFA Club Competitions Committee, which received details about the bonuses which would be awarded to the clubs in the 2010/11 UEFA Champions League. Although the new season is the second in a three-year commercial cycle, the club bonuses are adjusted each year on the basis of financial results, leading, in some cases this year, to higher payments for the clubs.

### For 2010/11, the amounts forecast are as follows:

- €3.9 million for each club that reaches the group stage;
- €550,000 per group match played, regardless of the result, making a total of €3.3 million per club;
- €800,000 for a win in the group stage and €400,000 for a draw;
- €3 million for each club that reaches the round of 16;
- €3.3 million for each club that reaches the quarter-finals;
- €4.2 million for each semi-finalist;
- €9 million for the winners and €5.6 million for the runners-up.

In addition, the clubs will receive a share of the market pool based on the commercial value of their domestic TV markets, the number of UEFA Champions League matches they play this season and their final position in the domestic league table last season. They will also keep their UEFA Champions League gate receipts.

Finally, each of the 20 clubs that contested the play-offs has received €2.1 million. ●



Sportsfile

# In black and blue

Never since awards were first presented to the best players in UEFA club competitions in 1998 had all the prizes been won by players from the same club.

Did FC Internazionale Milano, winners of the 2009/10 UEFA Champions League, lift the trophy (as well as the Italian championship, cup and super cup) because they had the best players, or did those players win their individual awards because their team was so successful?

The answer is probably that FC Internazionale Milano had excellent players who demonstrated a remarkable team spirit. In Monaco, when they received their awards, they all insisted that these individual prizes had a collective value by paying tribute to their team-mates' contribution to their success.

## Chosen by coaches

The winners were chosen by the coaches of the 16 clubs that qualified for the knockout stages of last season's UEFA Champions League, who awarded three points to the player they considered the best in each category (goalkeeper, defender, midfielder and forward), two points to the second best and one to the third best. They were also invited to name the best player of the season, all categories combined.

Among the goalkeepers, **Júlio César** won nearly all the votes, obtaining 42 out of a maximum 48 points (45 in fact, since coaches could not vote for their own players). His trophy was presented by former Spanish international goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta.

The decision was trickier where the defenders were concerned, since Inter's Brazilian **Maicon** finished only

three points ahead of Piqué of FC Barcelona. To add an extra touch of black and blue to the evening, it was a former Inter defender, Andreas Brehme, who presented the prize for best defender.

The voting was even tighter for the midfielders, with Inter's **Wesley Sneijder** receiving only two points more than another FC Barcelona player, Xavi Hernandez. Former Italian international Gianfranco Zola handed him his trophy.

**Diego Milito** was the clear winner in the forwards' category and his goals in the final undoubtedly played a part in his success. He received his trophy from former Norwegian international Ole-Gunnar Solskjaer.

**Diego Milito** was also voted by almost two-thirds of the coaches as UEFA Club Footballer of the Year for the 2009/10 season. The UEFA president, Michel Platini, presented this award.

The award presentations punctuated the different stages of the draw for the 2010/11 UEFA Champions League group phase. All the prize winners, along with the ambassador of the 2011 Champions League final, Gary Lineker, helped out with the draw, which was held in the auditorium of the Grimaldi Forum in Monaco. The final will be played at Wembley Stadium on 28 May. In the meantime, supporters will enjoy plenty of excitement during a season in which UEFA, as underlined by its general secretary, Gianni Infantino, will show zero tolerance towards racism and any attempt to manipulate matches. ●

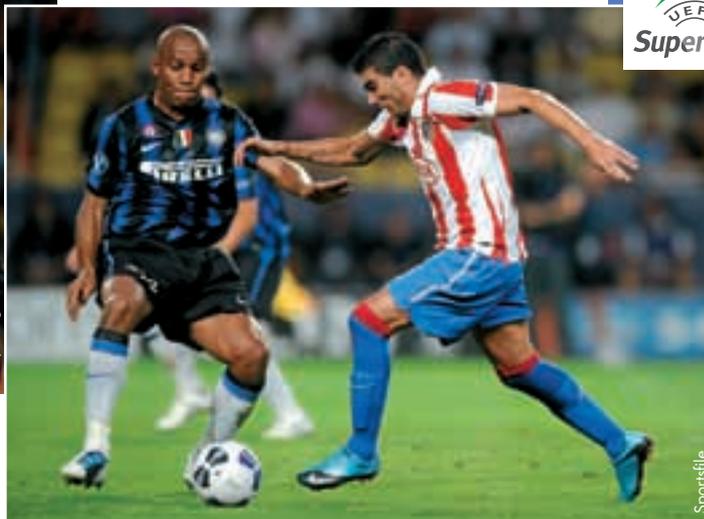


The award winners, from left to right: Wesley Sneijder, Júlio César, Diego Milito and Maicon



David De Gea was faultless in goal for Atlético.

José Antonio Reyes breaks away from Maicon and prepares to score the first goal of the match.



# Atlético de Madrid surprise champions

Having shone brightly on the stage of the Grimaldi Forum, where they had collected a number of prestigious awards, the stars of FC Internazionale Milano were rather more lacklustre the following evening at a full Stade Louis II in Monaco, where Club Atlético de Madrid brought an end to the Italians' impressive run of success.

Apart from the opening minutes of the match, when they created the odd goalscoring opportunity, Internazionale seemed rather ill at ease on this prestigious occasion which gave them a chance to win a European trophy that was still missing from their vast collection.

## Watchful defence

The mugginess of this late summer evening certainly did not lend itself to excessive physical effort and neither side had begun its national championship, so the teams were not yet perfectly oiled machines. However, the UEFA Champions League holders were surprisingly disjointed, their problems exemplified by their frequent use of long balls aimed at an isolated front man and their resulting difficulty in breaking down a watchful Spanish defence well marshalled by Luis Perea.

## Domination of Atlético

Their opponents, Atlético, without being brilliant, gradually grew in confidence and were dominating proceedings when José Antonio Reyes managed to surprise goalkeeper Júlio César with a shot from a tight angle. The response of Rafael Benítez's players was rather spo-

radic and ineffective, while their unusually generous marking enabled Sergio Agüero to notch an easy second goal and secure victory for the Madrid side. A penalty awarded to the Italians near the end of the match changed nothing, since goalkeeper David De Gea kept out Diego Milito's spot kick.

## Return to form

It may appear paradoxical that a club that was knocked out of the UEFA Champions League at the end of the group stage should ultimately win a trophy at the expense of the eventual champions. However, it should be remembered that Atlético have returned to form under Quique Sanchez Flores and that, in football as elsewhere, nothing ever stays the same.

Be that as it may, Atlético deserved their success, lifting the UEFA Super Cup for the first time and becoming the inaugural winners of the new phase of the competition in which the Champions' Cup/Champions League holders, having faced the winners of the Cup Winners' Cup (until 1999) and then of the UEFA Cup (until 2009), now play the UEFA Europa League holders. ●

**27 August 2010**

**Stade Louis II de Monaco – 17,265 spectators**

**FC Internazionale Milano v Club Atlético de Madrid 0-2 (0-0)**

**Goals:** Reyes (62) and Agüero (83)

**Referee:** Massimo Busacca (Switzerland), with two assistant referees and, for the first time in the Super Cup, two additional assistant referees.

# A high-quality field

The UEFA Europa League is entering its second season after an experimental first edition that was considered a promising success.

The switch from 8 groups of 5 teams, the format used in the UEFA Cup, to 12 groups of 4 has particularly helped to improve the competition's image. The group stage draw for the 2010/11 season was held in Monaco on 27 August. It was conducted by the UEFA general secretary, Gianni Infantino, with the assistance of Giuseppe Bergomi, former international and FC Internazionale Milano defender; Ronnie Whelan, ambassador for the 2011 final and former Republic of Ireland international; and Diego Forlan, who scored the winning goal for Club Atlético de Madrid in Hamburg last May.

## 17 former winners

The teams in the group stage represent 24 different national associations. Spain and Italy each have 4 representatives, Germany, Belgium, Greece, the Netherlands and Ukraine have 3, while 8 associations have 2 clubs involved and 9 more have just 1. Compared with the



Diego Forlan and Gianni Infantino conduct the draw.

first edition, Scotland, Latvia and Serbia are no longer represented, while clubs from Hungary, Poland and Russia are appearing in the competition for the first time.

Once again, the quality of the participants is high, since the titleholders, Club Atlético de Madrid, are joined by 16 other former UEFA trophy winners, which means that a third of the clubs involved have previously won a European competition. ●

→ [www.uefa.com/uefaeuropaleague](http://www.uefa.com/uefaeuropaleague)

## PRIZE MONEY FOR THE 2010/11 SEASON

As a sign of the positive image of the UEFA Europa League, the prize money forecast for the clubs has been increased to the following amounts:

- €640,000 as a participation bonus
- €60,000 per match played, i.e. a total of €360,000 per club
- €140,000 per win and €70,000 per draw
- €200,000 for reaching the round of 32
- €300,000 for reaching the round of 16
- €400,000 for each quarter-finalist
- €700,000 for each semi-finalist
- €3 million for the competition winners and €2 million for the runners-up

The clubs will also receive a variable amount depending on the commercial value of their national media rights, their position in the previous season's national championship and their performance in the Europa League.

## THE GROUPS

Group A	Group B	Group C
KKS Lech Poznan	Rosenborg BK	KAAs Gent
FC Salzburg	Aris Thessaloniki FC	LOSC Lille Métropole
Manchester City FC	Club Atlético de Madrid	Sporting Clube de Portugal
Juventus	Bayer 04 Leverkusen	PFC Levski Sofia
Group D	Group E	Group F
PAOK FC	FC BATE Borisov	PFC CSKA Moskva
NK Dinamo Zagreb	AZ Alkmaar	AC Sparta Praha
Villarreal CF	FC Sheriff	US Città di Palermo
Club Brugge KV	FC Dynamo Kyiv	FC Lausanne-Sport
Group G	Group H	Group I
HNK Hajduk Split	Odense BK	UC Sampdoria
RSC Anderlecht	VfB Stuttgart	Debreceni VSC
FC Zenit St. Petersburg	BSC Young Boys	FC Metalist Kharkiv
AEK Athens FC	Getafe CF	PSV Eindhoven
Group J	Group K	Group L
Paris Saint-Germain FC	FC Steaua Bucuresti	SK Rapid Wien
FC Karpaty Lviv	SSC Napoli	Besiktas JK
BV Borussia Dortmund	FC Utrecht	PFC CSKA Sofia
Sevilla FC	Liverpool FC	FC Porto

## 2010/11 calendar

**Group matches:** 16 and 30 September, 21 October, 4 November and 1, 2, 15 and 16 December 2010  
**Draw for the rounds of 32 and 16:** 17 December 2010  
**Round of 32:** 17 and 24 February 2011  
**Round of 16:** 10 and 17 March 2011  
**Draw for the quarter- and semi-finals:** 18 March 2011  
**Quarter-finals:** 7 and 14 April 2011  
**Semi-finals:** 28 April and 5 May 2011  
**Final:** 18 May, in Dublin.

Solidarity payments to clubs

# Nearly €68 million for training

Even top division clubs that do not have the privilege of playing in the UEFA Champions League receive a share of the competition revenue, in the form of solidarity payments. However, this money is earmarked exclusively for the training of young players.

In agreement with the European Club Association (ECA), the amount distributed to the clubs concerned was increased for the 2009/10 season, so much so that almost €68 million, significantly more than the €43 million or so paid the previous season, will be handed out as part of this solidarity programme.

As far as the distribution of the funds is concerned, a distinction is made between associations that are represented in the competition (as of the group stage) and those that are not.

For the former, a minimum amount of €600,000 per association has been introduced. The 18 asso-

ciations represented in the 2009-10 UEFA Champions League have therefore received the following (in euros):

England	13,152,793
Italy	8,093,538
Spain	7,831,918
Germany	7,483,733
France	4,515,862
Greece	2,469,506
Turkey	2,007,087
Scotland	1,597,034
Romania	1,439,783
Russia	1,396,234
Netherlands	1,186,799
Portugal	1,003,460
Belgium	752,630
Cyprus	752,630
Hungary	752,630
Israel	752,630
Switzerland	752,630
Ukraine	600,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,540,897</b>

For associations not represented, a minimum had already been set in previous seasons, although this has now been raised from €166,700 to €260,000. For both categories, the share allocated to each association depends on the contribution made by its national market to overall UEFA Champions League revenue. In addition, for both categories, participation in the play-offs was rewarded; however, the clubs that played in these matches, whether they qualified or not, do not receive a solidarity payment because they have already benefited directly from the club competition revenue distribution programmes. The table to the right shows how much the 35 associations without any representatives in the UEFA Champions League group stage received in euros:

Denmark	710,606
Poland	537,642
Bulgaria	484,582
Austria	467,767
Sweden	427,563
Latvia	413,275
Moldova	412,982
Norway	386,034
Republic of Ireland	380,735
Albania	307,903
Czech Republic	303,308
Serbia	298,127
Croatia	289,328
Malta	289,328
Finland	273,687
Slovenia	271,731
FYR Macedonia	269,972
Belarus	269,776
Iceland	268,800
Bosnia-Herzegovina	267,430
Montenegro	266,648
Azerbaijan	265,866
Georgia	265,377
Slovakia	265,181
Kazakhstan	264,302
Armenia	262,737
Luxembourg	261,173
Estonia	260,645
Lithuania	260,645
Andorra	260,000
Faroe Islands	260,000
Liechtenstein	260,000
Northern Ireland	260,000
San Marino	260,000
Wales	260,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,263,150</b>

The distribution criteria have also been adjusted and, generally speaking, stipulate that:

- the funds must be shared equally among all benefiting clubs;
- the funds must only be paid to clubs which have a youth training programme that complies with the requirements of the national club licensing regulations and must be used for youth training and community development programmes;
- the money is paid to the national associations, which are responsible for transferring the full amount to their national league for distribution to the clubs;
- a record should be kept of how much each club receives.

## Final breakdown

Based on the breakdown of revenue from the 2009/10 club competition finals, the share of gate receipts allocated to the clubs has also been calculated. In the UEFA Champions League, FC Internazionale Milano and FC Bayern München each receive €3,422,426 in addition to their respective prize money of €9 million and €5.2 million.

In the UEFA Europa League, Club Atlético de Madrid and Fulham FC each receive €1,156,800, which supplements their prize money of €3 million and €2 million respectively. ●



Money for youth development – a link between today's top players and the next generation.

# Be a referee 365 days a year

Slovenia provided a perfect setting for the latest UEFA summer gathering for top referees. The eighth such meeting of UEFA's match officials represented an ideal way for the referees to look forward to coming assignments.

The summer gathering for referees has become a traditional fixture in the UEFA calendar. With the UEFA Champions League group stage and UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying competition getting under way in September, UEFA's Referees Committee put together a comprehensive programme for its elite, premier and second-category referees.

The Football Association of Slovenia (NZS) proved to be splendid hosts for the three-day gathering from 30 August to 1 September. There were excellent facilities for the discussions and presentations, and ideal installations were available to the elite and premier referees for their fitness tests on the second day. The NZS president, Ivan Simic, spoke of the association's justifiable pride in having the opportunity to host European refereeing's current cream of the crop. The UEFA first vice-president, Senes Erzik, was also on hand to wish the referees the best of luck for the season.

## Excellent physical condition

The fitness tests, held under the watchful eye of UEFA's referee expert Werner Helsen and his team, served to reassure UEFA of the referees' excellent physical condi-

tion ahead of a charged season at club and national team level. Pierluigi Collina, now UEFA's chief refereeing officer after a distinguished career as a referee, pulled no punches in his opening address. "We can no longer consider you as officials – you are athletes," he said – sound advice to referees who have to be at maximum fitness to officiate at the high-pace top end of European football.

UEFA is also determined to combat match-fixing, illegal betting and corruption in the game, and its educational programme warns about the dangers of these phenomena. In the wake of sessions with youth footballers at recent European U17 and U19 final rounds, it was the turn of the referees to hear about UEFA's intensive work in the fight against manipulation of matches.

The head of UEFA's disciplinary services, Peter Limacher, explained the betting fraud detection system introduced by UEFA – in which matches in UEFA competitions are monitored, as well as games in the top two domestic divisions throughout UEFA's 53 member national associations – and also UEFA's assistance to the authorities in tackling organised crime in the area of match-fixing. He called on the referees to report to UEFA

The referees sailed through their fitness tests.





Pierluigi Collina now plays a key role in European refereeing as UEFA's chief refereeing officer.

NZS

any potential malpractices or illicit approaches made to them, and to show particular vigilance and care within their social environment.

### High responsibility

Video analysis of incidents in recent European club competition matches provided important pointers for the referees in helping them make correct and uniform decisions in future matches. "We have a duty to protect the image of the game," said UEFA refereeing officer Hugh Dallas, who urged the referees to be strict on incidents such as dissent and simulation. The Scotsman Dallas and a second UEFA refereeing officer, France's Marc Batta, are working alongside Pierluigi Collina not only within the Referees Committee, but also in special roles relating to, among other things, appointments, supervision, strategy and technical elements of refereeing.

Referees are nowadays thrust into the public spotlight, and a major element of their job is the requirement that they conduct themselves in a proper manner off the field. Pierluigi Collina urged the referees to bear this in mind. "Be a referee 365 days a year. You are very well-known people worldwide, and you have a great privilege in being known," the Italian said. "We are particularly concerned about the image of the entire group of referees. You are recognised, and therefore you have a very high responsibility – both at a venue and at home."

Such gatherings are not about UEFA speaking and the referees merely listening. Dialogue is the name of the game. The European body's refereeing officials heard the opinions of the referees on a variety of topics, and the match officials themselves exchanged ideas and views in lively group discussions.

To kick off the new season, a key message of the gathering in Slovenia was the confidence that UEFA has in its referees and the support that UEFA promises to give them to help them succeed. Pierluigi Collina closed the course with a call to the referees to maintain the highest professional standards on and off the pitch. His message was succinct: "If you fail to prepare – you prepare to fail..." ●

## Additional assistant referees

# Five referees: the experiment goes on

The experiment with additional assistant referees continues in UEFA's club competitions for the next two seasons – and the summer gathering in Slovenia gave UEFA's Referees Committee the opportunity to provide Europe's leading referees with expert guidance on the system.

Following a decision by the International Football Association Board (IFAB) in July, the trial – in which the main match referee, two assistant referees and the fourth official are accompanied by two additional assistants who take up positions alongside each goal – will be undertaken in the 2010/11 and 2011/12 UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League, as well as at the 2011 UEFA Super Cup. The additional assistants are active referees at either international or national top-flight level.



Getty Images

An additional assistant referee in action on the goal line in the UEFA Europa League match between Fulham and CSKA Sofia.

The additional assistants' particular brief is to focus on incidents in the penalty area, especially at set pieces. The view is that extra eyes will help the referee in decision-making, while players will be aware that they are being scrutinised at close range.

"The simple presence of additional assistants behind the goal line will act as a deterrent to players trying to push or hold back opponents," explained UEFA's chief refereeing officer Pierluigi Collina. "The additional assistants will communicate with the referee via the audio system. However, no matter what incident they spot, the final decision will always be with the referee."

The referees were advised in particular in Slovenia that the additional assistants should remain active and on the move, to give them good angles from which to see incidents. «This is an experiment that UEFA is taking very seriously,» said UEFA refereeing officer Hugh Dallas. UEFA has also taken on board the views of match officials who have already taken part in the trial during last season's UEFA Europa League. ●

# Top clubs, top coaches, top class

If any fourth official ever worries about keeping two coaches relatively quiet during a game, the annual meeting held in Nyon on the first two days of September would have given him nightmares.

There were 17 coaches – and they were all ready to talk. What's more, their accumulation of trophies as players or coaches would have filled the average trophy room to the ceiling. The team photo is a priceless image. But, on this occasion, the picture was probably of lesser worth than a thousand words, bearing in mind that the idea was to allow the top coaches to meet in a non-competitive environment, to 'talk football' and to comment freely on UEFA's club competitions.

## Good atmosphere

In a UEFA publication, talking about a 'resounding success' goes against the grain because it sounds like patting yourself on the back. But it was edifying to see that, when he returned to Germany, Thomas Schaaf posted some comments on the Werder Bremen website. "This is a very good conference," he said. "The entire event is superbly organised, well prepared content-wise and gives you the chance to discuss technical things and intensively think about them. This is a great thing. There is a very good atmosphere and you can talk to colleagues about anything and you get a better impression about how things run in other countries."

These interchanges were by no means confined to the auditorium at UEFA HQ where, at a 'top table', Sir Alex Ferguson (as honorary president of the UEFA Coaches Circle) and José Mourinho (champion of the UEFA Champions League) were joined by UEFA's general secretary, Gianni Infantino, technical director, Andy Roxburgh, competitions director, Giorgio Marchetti, and, when he jetted

in from Armenia to join the forum, the UEFA president. The UEFA president was gratified to receive unanimous support from his footballing colleagues when he outlined his viewpoint on the use of technology. The coaches endorsed his belief in human – rather than electronic – resources and welcomed the extension of the five-official experiment into the UEFA Champions League.

## Tactical trends

But there was much more to the forum than that. Tactical trends in last season's UEFA club competitions were discussed – the coaches agreed that the UEFA Champions League continues to set benchmarks – and parallels were drawn with the subsequent FIFA World Cup in South Africa. Sections of the forum were also dedicated to logistical issues which might seem fairly mundane to the general public but which can have great significance with regard to coaching, to team performances and to the quality of the entertainment offered to the fans. The coaches unanimously agreed that top-quality competitions deserve top-quality playing surfaces, with attention paid to facets such as grass height and pitch watering.

Discussion also focused on details such as warm-up schedules and media arrangements, along with some of the issues raised as 'talking points' in UEFA's technical report on the 2009/10 UEFA Champions League, copies of which were handed to the forum participants. One of the questions, for example, was whether the time has come to review – after 45 years – the away goals rule. But that's another story... ●



## Left to right, front row:

Jean Fernandez (AJ Auxerre), Josep Guardiola (FC Barcelona), Didier Deschamps (Olympique de Marseille), Michel Platini, Sir Alex Ferguson (Manchester United FC), Jesualdo Ferreira (Málaga CF), Carlo Ancelotti (Chelsea FC); **middle row:** Felix Magath (FC Schalke 04), Massimiliano Allegri (AC Milan), Jorge Jesus (SL Benfica), Roy Hodgson (Liverpool FC), Claudio Ranieri (AS Roma), Claude Puel (Olympique Lyonnais), Gianni Infantino; **standing:** Giorgio Marchetti, Martin Jol (AFC Ajax), Thorsten Fink (FC Basel 1893), Thomas Schaaf (SV Werder Bremen), Nikos Nioplias (Panathinaikos FC), José Mourinho (Real Madrid CF), Andy Roxburgh.

# Resolution against match-fixing

At its meeting in Monaco on 27 August, the Professional Football Strategy Council (PFSC) agreed to step up the fight against the growing menace of match-fixing in European football and adopted the following resolution.

## The Professional Football Strategy Council:

- recognises and understands the gravity of the match-fixing threat;
- welcomes the steps undertaken by UEFA, FIFA and other football bodies so far to fight match-fixing;
- believes that fighting match-fixing needs education, prevention and deterrents;
- invites UEFA to intensify and extend its education programme in cooperation with associations, clubs, leagues and players' unions at both European and national level;
- urges the political authorities to engage with UEFA and national football bodies to adopt legislation, which must be enforced by the law enforcement authorities, to protect the integrity of football competitions and recognise the rights and responsibilities of competition organisers in betting activities; and
- demands a policy of zero tolerance towards all those involved in match-fixing.

In addition to the above resolution, the PFSC received an update from Pierluigi Collina, UEFA's chief refereeing officer, on the efforts being made to improve refereeing and on the current experiment with additional assistant referees. The PFSC also noted the work undertaken by FIFA with regard to players' agents and intermediaries. Both the 2009/10 UEFA club competitions and the performance of the European teams during the 2010 FIFA World Cup were discussed and analysed. Finally, the latest developments in social dialogue were presented and the PFSC acknowledged the good progress which has been made in this respect. ●



## UEFA integrity line

UEFA has opened a match-fixing and corruption 'integrity line', which comprises an international free-phone hotline and a reporting platform, two totally secure means for anyone who has information concerning match-fixing, corruption or illegal sports betting to contact UEFA in complete confidentiality. There is no need for names or personal details and the system is currently available in three languages – English, French and German – with Russian to be added soon.

Anyone with information can either call the international freephone number **+800 0001 0002** to talk to a trained operator, who will ask various questions and anonymously record the information given, or they can access the secure integrity line via a new link on the UEFA.com homepage. This easy-to-use reporting platform offers the same anonymity as the freephone number described above but the information is entered

directly online and documents can be uploaded at the same time.

Anyone who calls the freephone number or enters the reporting platform is given an incident number, with which they can consult their private, password-protected 'postbox' to see if UEFA has replied and to provide additional information if necessary, again in complete confidentiality.

There is a series of FAQs on the reporting platform homepage which explain in more detail how the system works.

UEFA's commitment to the detection and prevention of match-fixing and corruption has been widely publicised over the past two years and the introduction of this system will greatly reinforce our investigative possibilities, with the aim of taking disciplinary action against any individual, club or organisation involved. ●

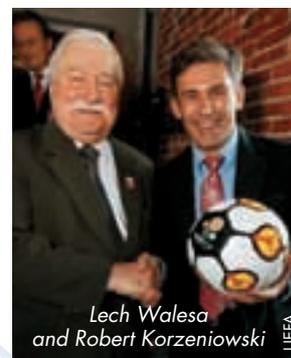
## Friends of EURO 2012



The worlds of sport, politics and showbusiness united for the launch in Poland and Ukraine of Friends of UEFA EURO 2012, a promotional campaign spreading excitement about the next European Football Championship final tournament through the host nations. Poland and Ukraine each named the first four of their 100 Friends of EURO 2012 at separate events, with former Polish president Lech Wałęsa and Ukrainian Olympic great Serhiy Bubka among the nominees. Bubka joined fellow Olympian Valeriy Borzov, poet/publisher Ivan Malkovych and singer Svyatoslav Vakarchuk at Ukraine's launch in Kyiv on 3 September, with the Polish event came 24 hours later in Lodz, featuring ex-Poland goalkeeper Józef Młynarczyk, singer Maryla Rodowicz, Olympic hero Robert Korzeniowski and Lech Wałęsa. The kick-off coincided with the first full UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying matchday. Some 100 people in both Poland and Ukraine will become Friends

of EURO 2012, half public figures chosen by the local organising committees, the rest competition winners from the general public.

A friendly match was also organised in Lodz between the senior national teams of Poland and Ukraine, who drew 1-1. ●



Issue 2 of the official newsletter of the European Football Championship was published in August (in English, Polish and Ukrainian). It features, among other things, an interview with the tournament directors, Markiyian Lubkivskyi (Ukraine) and Adam Olkowicz (Poland), an update on UEFA EURO 2012 preparations, an explanation of the commercial programme of the tournament and the calendar of events leading up to the start of the tournament on 8 June 2012. ●

→ [uefa.com/uefaeuro2012](http://uefa.com/uefaeuro2012)

### Social responsibility

## A cheque for UNOSDP

The cheque traditionally presented by UEFA in Monaco to a charitable organisation was this year given to the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP).



Michel Platini handed over the €1 million cheque to Wilfried Lemke, the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace, during the UEFA Club Football Awards ceremony and UEFA Champions League group stage draw in Monaco on 26 August.

The funds will be divided between five projects linked to the United Nations and harnessing the power of sport, physical activity and play to improve the everyday lives of people in need. The recipient organisations will work in line with the UN's eight Millennium Development Goals (eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empower women, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability, develop a global partnership for development). ●

### In brief:

- France v Italy, England v Switzerland, Ukraine v Norway and Sweden v Denmark: these are the play-off matches for the 2011 Women's World Cup, to be played on 11/12 (first leg) and 15/16 September (second leg). → [www.uefa.com/womensworldcup](http://www.uefa.com/womensworldcup)
- The draw for the UEFA Women's Champions League round of 32 was held in Nyon on 19 August. → [www.uefa.com/womenschampionsleague](http://www.uefa.com/womenschampionsleague)
- The Turkish girls' team won bronze medals in the Youth Olympic Games football tournament in Sin-

gapore. Chile finished first, beating Equatorial Guinea 5-3 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in the final.

In the boys' tournament, Montenegro finished fourth in a tournament won by Bolivia.

- The new UEFA office building, which will be officially opened on 18 October, has been awarded a *Distinction romande d'architecture* (architecture prize of French-speaking Switzerland) in the 'administrative buildings' category. ●

## An eye on the media

55 people of a couple of dozen nationalities gathered at UEFA's headquarters in Nyon on 4 and 5 August for a UEFA media officers workshop.

Some of the event was focused on the nuts and bolts of media operations that would pass totally unnoticed by the vast majority of the footballing public. Few supporters, for example, would be interested to know that, for the group stage of the new UEFA Champions League season, the main camera platforms at venues need to accommodate at least three TV cameras and have a minimum length of six metres, or that three indoor TV studios need to be provided instead of two.



A great part of the workshop programme was dedicated to looking at the past and projecting it into the future. Apart from an in-depth review of the big final at the Estadio Santiago Bernabéu, the first season of the UEFA Europa League was put under the magnifying glass. The new competition's immediate impact – viewing figures were not far short of 50% up in relation to the previous season's UEFA Cup – is no excuse for taking feet off the accelerator. As opposed to the UEFA Champions League, where a UEFA media officer is assigned to each match, responsibilities for media operations during the group stage of the UEFA Europa League are shared by the participating clubs and a UEFA venue director, with UEFA media officers then being deployed during the knockout rounds. Hence the desire to analyse performance levels during the inaugural campaign and to fine-tune the strategy for the second one.

To this end one of the sessions had special relevance. Among the participants were Enrique Ramón and María Teresa Chirivi from the communications department of Club Atlético de Madrid, who gave an interesting insight into what the campaign had meant for the club in terms of its image and media operations.

Coping with the ups and downs of an exciting season was also the theme of a presentation by FC Bayern München's director of communications, Markus Hörwick, who stressed that a football club is "an incredibly emotional thing," meaning that communication strategies can barely stand comparison with an average, purely commercial, company.

A FIFA World Cup, on the other hand, does permit comparisons with the big events organised by UEFA – and feedback from the media officers on duty in South Africa provided a starting point for reflections which will become increasingly relevant as the European Championship finals draw nearer. ●

## NEWS FROM BRUSSELS

**On 1 July, Belgium took over the rotating presidency of the European Union, a position it will hold until 31 December. It will preside over what promises to be an eventful six-month semester for European sport.**

The presidency of the European Union, which passes to a different member state every six months, plays a significant role in setting the agenda of the EU. Not only does it provide the impetus for the various legislative and political processes, but importantly, it has responsibility for organising and presiding over meetings and numerous working groups.

In Belgium, responsibility for sport is shared between the country's three linguistic communities (Flemish, French and German), but for the duration of the EU presidency, the overseeing role has been designated to the Flemish sports minister, Philippe Muyters.

Three policy meetings have already been scheduled during Belgium's presidency. On 16/17 September in Genval, there will be an informal meeting of European sports directors. Their task will be to lay the groundwork for the informal meeting of EU sports ministers, which is due to take place on 21/22 October in Antwerp. A formal meeting of the Education, Youth and Culture Council, which includes European sports ministers, is then set to convene on 18 November in Brussels. On the same day, the European Parliament will organise a public consultation on Article 165 of the Lisbon Treaty which, to recap, empowers the EU with a supporting competence in the field of sport (see *uefadirect* No. 94).

Belgium's programme for sport will focus on three priority areas: the education and training of young athletes, anti-doping, and social inclusion through sport. Implementation of Article 165 of the Lisbon Treaty will be another major focal point. In this regard, during the autumn, the European Commission is set to publish a communication on the impact of the Lisbon Treaty on sport, which may, in part, then be incorporated into an updated White Paper on Sport (See *uefadirect* No. 65). If the communication is published early enough in the year, Belgium will then coordinate the adoption of a resolution by members of the Council of the EU in response to the communication. If not, that task will fall to Hungary, which is due to assume the EU presidency in the first semester of 2011. ●

■ At the beginning of September, a security conference was organised in Vienna by UEFA and a European Union think tank. It was attended by representatives of European police forces and governmental agencies and by the security officers of clubs taking part in UEFA competitions. ●

 **Armenia**  
www.ffa.am



The president of Armenia, Serzh Sargsyan, presents the UEFA president with the Order of Honour

**Opening of national football academy**

The UEFA president, Michel Platini, met the Armenian president, Serzh Sargsyan, and the president of the Football Federation of Armenia (FFA), Ruben Hayrapetyan, for talks in Yerevan on 1 September.

Michel Platini was in the Armenian capital for the official opening of the FFA's national football academy, which was built with UEFA support. He used the occasion to hold talks with the leaders of the country and the football federation.

The president of Armenia presented the UEFA president with the Order of Honour, a prestigious national award and expression of thanks for UEFA's ongoing contribution to the game's development in Armenia.

The UEFA president had attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the FFA academy and national training centre three years ago and was delighted to return for the inauguration of the new facility: "Together we have constructed this academy," Mr Platini said. "I am confident it will benefit young players in Armenia. I always say it is very important to give youngsters the opportunity to enjoy the game, and today is like a dream come true for a lot of young people

here. The practice of UEFA supporting national associations is working and will continue in the future – football development is our common goal."

The football academy, which can host six team training camps simultaneously, was tried out by Armenia's senior national team and Under-21 side before their recent qualifying games. "It would have been impossible to build such a complex without UEFA assistance," said the FFA president, Ruben Hayrapetyan. "UEFA funded 62% of the work and that says everything about their attitude to our country. The football community in Armenia wants to thank UEFA and Michel Platini for their great help, because this academy will become a base for all the Armenia's national teams."

Mr Platini also met the president of the Armenian Olympic Committee, Gagik Tsarukyan, and Yerevan's mayor, Gagik Beglaryan, before taking a tour of the training facility. "I can see huge efforts are being made by the FFA," he said. "It is not a question of producing world-class talent here; rather of giving young people an opportunity to enjoy the game. The FFA is dedicated to youth development and I want to underline the hard work of their president."

● Khachik Chakhoyan

 **Azerbaijan**  
www.affa.az

**Elite training project**

This summer, the Association of Football Federations of Azerbaijan (AFFA) focused on youth football and implemented a new elite youth training project. During a press conference held at the AFFA's football academy, the general secretary, Elkhon Mammadov, said: "Grassroots football development, as well as football infrastructure and educational improvements, are our main priorities. We launched this project to develop football for kids, increase the popularity of youth football, spot talented young footballers and highlight the role of football in a healthy lifestyle."

The AFFA's technical director, Bernhard Lippert, added: "This is a big event involving different age groups. Initially, the project is being organised in four cities: Baku, Sumgayit, Ganja and Lankaran. At a later stage, the elite training project will involve all the regions of Azerbaijan. We are grateful to the German Football Federation for all its assistance in helping the AFFA to implement this project."

So far, the training sessions have been very interesting and full of excitement. They are giving talented kids an opportunity to break into the elite game. Eventually some may become professional players; others may not. Either way, they are all members of football family. ● Mikayil Narimanoglu



Elite coaching for young footballers

 **Austria**  
www.oefb.at



Juande Ramos (centre) with Willi Ruttensteiner (on his right) and coaches Franco Foda, Peter Pacult and Karl Daxbacher

**Juande Ramos addresses Austrian coaches**

On the initiative of Willi Ruttensteiner, sports director of the Austrian Football Association (ÖFB), a highly successful international coach, in the person of Juande Ramos, was invited to address a course for professional coaches in Klagenfurt in August. Ramos, who took FC Sevilla to UEFA Cup victory two years in a row, and has also coached at Real Madrid CF and Tottenham Hotspur FC, among others, had the undivided attention of an audience that included Peter Pacult (Rapid Wien), Franco Foda (Sturm Graz), Karl Daxbacher (Austria Wien), Paul Gludovatz (SV Ried and coach of the team that finished fourth in the FIFA U-20 World Cup three years ago) and Toni

Polster (coach of Linzer ASK's B team at the time), as well as leading Austrian football instructors, as he presented interesting new trends and ideas. All the participants were most impressed, as was Ramos himself. "I think it's nice that Austrian coaches are looking beyond their own borders and taking such a keen interest in a speaker from abroad," he said afterwards.

Willi Ruttensteiner spoke on behalf of all the coaches present when he said, "Juande Ramos was really fascinating to listen to. What he said about the Spanish playing and training philosophy was not only interesting but real added value for everyone taking part in this special course, which should become a regular event in the future".

● Peter Klinglmüller

## All part of the team

Wednesday 25 August was an important day for the Royal Belgian Football Association (URBSFA). Apart from Georges Leekens announcing his squads for the senior national team's first two EURO 2012 qualifiers, against Germany at home and Turkey away, and for the Under-21s' last qualifier in the 2009-11 European Under-21 Championship, against Slovenia, the day was also marked by the launch of a new Red Devils promotional campaign entitled "We are all part of the team".

The aim of the Belgian association was to kick off a national communications campaign for the senior national team's EURO 2012 qualifying matches. The URBSFA invited various communications agencies to propose projects designed to get the Belgian public to come together in support of its national team.

After the URBSFA's marketing and communications department had evaluated the different projects in consultation with the association's various sponsors, it was the proposal of a young creative communications agency set up by Grégory Defay and Quentin Gascard, Buzz in a Box, which was the undisputed favourite, with their idea of a jigsaw puzzle made up of pieces representing the different components of football (players, coaches, supporters, etc.).



Thomas Vermaelen, one of the faces of the campaign

Apart from the brilliance of the concept itself, its adaptability also won over the URBSFA. Posters, a TV advert, backdrops and a special dressing for the association's HQ are just some of the components that have already been produced and received widespread praise.

Two Red Devils have been chosen as the faces of the campaign: Thomas Vermaelen, who plays for Arsenal FC and captains the Belgian national team, appears on the posters, while Steven Defour, captain of R. Standard de Liège, features in the TV advert. In both cases, the player is depicted as a jigsaw puzzle which symbolically represents all Belgians supporting their national team and recalls the campaign's slogan "We are all part of the team".

In order to qualify for EURO 2012, all the pieces of the puzzle must, of course, fit together perfectly, but there is already no doubt that the supporter pieces will fall into place and that our 12th man will do everything he can to drive our players towards the desired goal of a place in the final round.

● Pierre Cornez

## Futsal success for Orlić Sarajevo

Recent events in Bosnia-Herzegovina have been marked by the clubs' performances in the UEFA competitions. Four took part in the qualifying rounds of the UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League. In the UEFA Champions League, the domestic champions, FK Zeljeznica, were eliminated in the second qualifying round by Hapoel Tel-Aviv FC from Israel (5-0, 1-0). As for the clubs which took part in the UEFA Europa League, the best performance was by HSK Zrinjski Mostar, who beat FC Tobol Kostanay of Kazakhstan in the first qualifying round (2-1, 2-1) and SP Tre Penne from San Marino in the second (4-1, 9-2), but were stopped by Odense BK from Denmark in the third (3-5, 0-0).

NK Siroki Brijeg also made it through the first qualifying round of the UEFA Europa League by twice beating NK Olimpija Ljubljana of Slovenia (2-0, 3-0), but they were eliminated in the second round by FK Austria Wien, who won their return match 1-0 at Siroki's Pecara stadium after being held to a 2-2 draw in Vienna. Finally, FK Borac Banja Luka entered the competition in the second

qualifying round, but were knocked out by FC Lausanne-Sport from Switzerland (0-1, 1-1).

The Bosnian women's champions, SFK 2000 Sarajevo, also took part in European qualifiers, in Group 3 of the UEFA Women's Champions League. Unfortunately, they lost three times at the tournament in Larnaca and Limassol (Cyprus), first against local team Apollon Limassol LFC (6-1), the eventual winners of the group, then against ASA Tel-Aviv from Israel (3-1) and Umea IK from Sweden (1-0). The futsal club MNK Orlić Sarajevo achieved a worthy result, however, winning Group C in the preliminary round of the UEFA Futsal Cup to book a place in the main round. They won all three of their preliminary round matches, first against locals Stella Rossa Wien (8-3), then against SC Tornado Chisinau of Moldova (7-4) and finally against Perth Saltires of Scotland (11-1).

In their preparations for the EURO 2012 qualifiers, the Bosnia-Herzegovina national team drew 1-1 in a friendly match against Qatar, at the Grbavica stadium in Sarajevo. The national U21s, meanwhile, were beaten 2-0 by Hungary in Zenica in the last of their qualifying matches for the 2009-11 European U21 Championship finals in Denmark. The Bosnian U19s hosted two friendly matches in Velika Kladusa against their peers from Croatia in preparation for the 2010/11 European U19 Championship qualifiers. The visitors got the better of them in both matches (2-0, 1-0). Bosnia-Herzegovina are hosting the Group 5 qualifiers, in which they meet Belarus, the Czech Republic and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The mini-tournament is being held from 1 to 6 October.

Finally, the Bosnia-Herzegovina U17s are in Group 2 for their European qualifiers. Their mini-tournament is being held from 15 to 20 October in Estonia, where, as well as the hosts, Bosnia-Herzegovina will play Germany and Austria.

● Fuad Kravac



The national team prepared for its EURO 2012 qualifying campaign with a warm-up match against Qatar

## Belief in youth

Our youth teams' matches have always been of special importance to us at the Croatian Football Federation (CFF), as they are the basis on which we assess the future of Croatian football.

The performance of our U19 national team at the European finals in France gave us particular satisfaction. By making it through to the semi-finals, they showed they could hold their own against the best and qualified for the 2011 World Cup in Colombia. This is a very promising generation, as are our U21s, who we believe will continue to achieve good results too.

We are also very excited about our senior national team's EURO 2012 qualifying campaign and hope to once again play at the European Championship finals.

Meanwhile, after what seems a long time, the matches of our two best clubs, FC Dinamo Zagreb and FC Hajduk Split, are attracting a lot of interest. They have both qualified for the UEFA Europa League, which means more international club matches to come.

In the domestic competitions, a most exciting season is unfolding, especially due to the forthcoming change in the league system. In next season's Croatian premier league, the number of clubs will be reduced from 16 to 12, which means 5 will be relegated to the first division, which will continue to comprise 16 clubs. But as some clubs have shown a lot of promise already, everything is pointing towards an exciting battle for top spot and a place in the UEFA Champions League qualifiers.

Croatia traditionally has a great number of emigrants. Our football federation's ongoing cooperation with clubs founded by Croatians abroad is unique in Europe. The CFF helps to organise European and world championships between these clubs, as well as European championships for Croatian national minorities.



Croatia reached the semi-finals of the European U19 Championship

The third European championship for Croatian clubs abroad was held in Switzerland. Of the nine clubs that qualified for the final tournament, the best were the hosts, Dinamo Möhlin, followed by runners-up Croatia Zurich and bronze-medallists Croatia Zagreb Stuttgart.

In other news, we are currently analysing the success of our activities in the context of the UEFA summer of grassroots football. Our results are improving every year. A special event is the Bistra Youth Sport Games, which have the support of sports and other institutions in and outside Croatia. The motto of the games, which are based in Split, is: "Live life without drugs, because drugs take lives." At the 14th edition of the games, 51,350 boys and girls competed in 10 sports, including 28,640 who played football.

● Ante Pavlovic

**England**  
www.thefa.com

**FA charts progress in Lesotho**

While the excitement of the FIFA 2010 World Cup was only just starting to fade in neighbouring South Africa, The FA was in Lesotho to run a football administration course as part of the UEFA-CAF Meridian Project.

Paul Mullen, senior national game business support manager, had spent two weeks with the Lesotho Football Association in 2009 and this year's course was a perfect opportunity to review the association's administrative processes and further the relationship between the two governing bodies.

The four-day course covered a broad range of topics such as event management and ge-

neral administration, with the main aim being to improve the participants' knowledge as football administrators. Whether they were in full-time employment in local football or worked as volunteers, all attendees had one common goal: to gain knowledge, skills and confidence and be able to share this with others in the football community.

The local media were also present on the last day of the course, enabling Paul to immediately encourage dialogue between them and the football administrators. Accompanied by The FA's international development manager, Maria de León, he was delighted to be returning to Lesotho and felt very welcomed by everyone at the association.

*"It was a great honour and privilege for me to deliver this four-day football administration workshop to over 40 members of the football community and members of the Lesotho media. From the level of participation during the course and feedback received from the attendees, we hopefully achieved our goals," he said.*

The FA team also had the opportunity to visit local non-governmental organisation Kick4Life in Maseru, where they took part in one of the NGO's specialised training sessions to help raise HIV/Aids awareness among local youths.

● Maria de León

**France**  
www.fff.fr

**Georgia**  
www.gff.ge



A rapturous welcome for Europe's U19 champions at the Stade de France

**Twin tributes for U19s**

The national men's and women's Under-19 teams, both crowned European champions in 2010, gathered at the Stade de France on Friday 3 September to meet the senior men's team and to show off their trophies to the 76,000 spectators who had come to watch France v Belarus.

Earlier in the day, the teams coached by Jean-Michel Degrange (women's U19s) and Francis Smerecki (men's U19s) had visited the headquarters of the French Football Federation, where they toasted their success with Fernand Duchaussoy, FFF acting president, and Gérard Houllier, national technical director. FFF staff had also been invited to celebrate these two titles, which marked a historic summer for French football.

In 2008, Francis Smerecki had led his team to the final of the European Under-17 Championship, which they lost to Spain (4-0). Although he did not speak of revenge, he fully appreciated the recent success: *"The boys really deserve it. It's a victory for the whole squad."* Captain

Gueïda Fofana (Le Havre) and his team-mates showed themselves to be worthy of their glorious predecessors, such as Thierry Henry and David Trezeguet, winners in 1996, and Yoann Gourcuff and Hugo Lloris, 2005 champions. They also carried on a strong French tradition in this competition, with no fewer than seven titles (1949, 1983, 1996, 1997, 2000, 2005 and 2010).

The future certainly looks bright, and not just for the men. A month and a half before their victory in Caen, France had already been crowned European Women's Under-19 champions. Coached by Jean-Michel Degrange, the women's team won their tournament in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia by beating England 2-1 in the final. This victory came 40 years after women's football had been officially recognised in France. *"It provides more evidence of the quality of French coaching and the FFF's efforts to improve the future elite,"* declared Gérard Houllier, whose tribute could also have applied to Francis Smerecki's team.

● Matthieu Brelle-Andrade

**Visit of the UEFA president**

The UEFA president, Michel Platini, paid an official visit to Georgia on 9/10 August, accompanied by a delegation led by Theodore Theodoridis, the UEFA deputy general secretary.

They visited the newly renovated headquarters of the Georgian Football Federation, the Basa technical centre and the Mikheil Meskhi stadium, as well as the Boris Paichadze national stadium, which was hosting an Open Fun Football School.

The UEFA president also had meetings with Georgian politicians, including the prime minister, Nika Gilauri, the mayor of Tbilisi, Gigi Ugulava, and the minister of sports and youth affairs, Lado Vardzelashvili. One of the main topics at these meetings was the possibility of Georgia hosting a UEFA event in 2012/13.

Michel Platini said: *"The atmosphere and hospitality in Tbilisi are remarkable. I am very pleased to see such a strong relationship between the Georgian Football Federation, the government and the town of Tbilisi."*

The UEFA delegation was pleased with the work of the Georgian Football Federation, adding that UEFA supported the federation in all its ongoing projects and would continue to provide assistance to help further the development of Georgian football.

● GFF Press Centre



The UEFA president receives a Georgian national team shirt



## Julius Hirsch prize goes to Brandenburg

In a ceremony at the historical Cologne town hall, the German Football Association (DFB) has awarded its sixth Julius Hirsch prize. With this award, which is in memory of German international Julius Hirsch, who lost his life at the Auschwitz concentration camp, the DFB not only remembers the victims of the Nazi regime, but also raises public awareness – in the stadiums and in the community – of the invulnerability of human dignity, as well as supporting and promoting the significant work undertaken by clubs in this field.

This year, the jury, chaired by former minister of the interior Otto Schily, decided to award the prize to SV Sedlitz Blau-Weiss. Since it was re-born 20 years ago, this district league club from Senftenberg in Brandenburg has been closely involved with the local asylum centre. Many of its residents have joined the football club and play there. The club is taking part in the *Vielfalt tut gut* (Diversity is good) initiative of the Brandenburg state and also runs its own activities under the slogan *Verein(!) gegen Rechtsextremismus* (United against right-wing extremism). Second place went to Roter Stern Leipzig 99, a club with 400 members which is acting against any form of discrimination on the basis of gender, origin or sexual orientation. In third place were SV 06 Lehrte for their wide-ranging work, which includes the promotion of organ donation, youth integration, after-school tuition and job application guidance.

*"All three prize winners are further examples of the socially important work carried out by DFB football clubs at grassroots level and even in the smallest clubs,"* said the DFB's president, Theo Zwanziger. ● **Stephan Brause**



## New national football anthem

A visit by the UEFA president, Michel Platini, and the start of the EURO 2012 qualifying campaign have been the big headlines in Latvian football lately. On 3 September, the UEFA president had a meeting with the country's president, Valdis Zatlers, before participating in a mini-pitch groundbreaking ceremony in Riga together with representatives of the Riga city council and, in the evening, attending the EURO 2012 qualifying match between Latvia and Croatia at the Skonto stadium. This was Michel Platini's first trip to Latvia in his capacity as UEFA president.

In other news, the Latvian Football Federation (LFF), together with its general sponsor, Latvijas Mobilais Telefons, organised the O!Karte Cup football tournament in August for under-eight-year-olds from all over the country. The main goal of the tournament was to discover talented young footballers and to motivate them to play and possibly even become professionals one day. The eight winners of the preliminary rounds competed in the final tournament on 3 September in Riga, after which they too watched the



The UEFA president with the youth tournament winners

Latvia v Croatia match at the Skonto stadium, where they also met the UEFA president and took part in other memorable activities.

Finally, *Mans Lielais Singls*, a track by Gacho, one of Latvia's most popular hip-hop artists, has been chosen by the LFF as the new national football anthem. The song is currently at the top of all official Latvian music charts. With a very energetic rhythm and lyrics, this motivational song describes the vigour with which football should be played. You can listen to *Mans Lielais Singls* on the official LFF homepage, [www.lff.lv](http://www.lff.lv).

● **Viktors Sopirins**



The newly qualified coaches

## Highest certificate for 27 coaches

The latest UEFA Pro licence course ended this summer. Twenty-seven coaches proved their practical and theoretical skills, including those employed by the best clubs in Hungary.

András Herczeg, who won every domestic title possible last year (championship, cup and league cup) with Debreceni VSC, while also leading his team in the UEFA Champions League, participated in the course, as did many other coaches from the Hungarian first league.

The ambitious coaches were given their certificates at the Hungarian Football Federation's technical centre in Telki by Sándor Csányi, federation president, Márton Vági, general secretary, and Tibor Nyilasi, technical director.

*"It is a great honour but also a big responsibility to get this diploma. You have proved a lot during the last few years before getting it, but in my eyes youth trainers and top coaches are equally important as they all have their roles in the future of Hungarian football and they all have to work hard,"* said Sándor Csányi at the ceremony. ● **Márton Dinnyés**



## Ambitious goal for the national team

The goal of the Liechtenstein Football Association (LFFV) is to excel on the international stage. Not just every once in a while, like in the national team's unforgettable 2-2 draw against Portugal, but time and again. In order to achieve this ambitious goal, the national team should contain only professional players. This is what the association is working towards. In order to share its football philosophy with the principality's young talents and their parents, and to convince them of its merits, the LFFV has produced a leaflet entitled *Football in Liechtenstein*, which outlines how a young footballer's training unfolds, what is expected of them and what support they are given, from the time they start playing children's football with a club.

The most promising talents can then expect to first be selected for the U12 squad. From here they can work their way up from the U13s to U18s. In each age bracket the LFFV has a team competing in the corresponding Swiss championship, in some cases very successfully. Young talents who follow this path have excellent chances of one day representing the national team.

The leaflet (in German) can be downloaded at: [www.lfv.li/spitzenfussball.html](http://www.lfv.li/spitzenfussball.html).

● **Anton Banzer**

**Lithuania**  
www.lff.lt

**Entertaining summer-holiday project**

Three months off school and little to do... This is a typical Lithuanian summer for most school-children. The Lithuanian Football Federation (LFF), however, gives them an attractive, active and entertaining alternative through the Bring Children back to the Stadiums programme, which comprises ten football-related projects and has been running for more than seven years.

Each summer, the most active, motivated youngsters aged 14 to 18 attend a leaders' course at the national football academy, where they are given an opportunity to meet top achievers in the football and business communities and learn organisational and leadership skills. Playing football is part of the learning process and helps the teenagers to gain experience of working as a team. "Everyone is capable of becoming a leader," Liutauras Varanavicius, LFF president and member of the UEFA Execu-

tive Committee, told the youngsters at a recent course. "Leaders are recognised not by the position they occupy; leaders are those that people believe in and follow." Most of the young leaders are already active members of the football family and are involved in different projects.

Another summer course organised is for grassroots football coaches. Aldona, a teacher from a rural community school, was joyous after attending this year: "I have never played football. I never thought it could be fun, especially for such a mature woman as me." After just a few days, the new football instructors went back to their schools and led football sessions for local kids. The main thing they teach is that football is fun and can be played by everyone, everywhere. Those that organised their sessions in an apple orchard clearly took this message rather literally!

This summer, the LFF has involved almost half of all Lithuanian children in different programmes related to football. "We believe that everyone can play football and has to be provi-



Football during the summer holidays

ded with such an opportunity. The summer is the best time for that," says Liutauras Varanavicius.

● Jurga Chomskyte-McGeever

**Malta**  
www.mfa.com.mt

**Appointment of new chief executive officer**



D. Aquilina

The new CEO of the Malta FA, Bjorn Vassallo

The Malta FA's new president, Norman Darmain Demajo, has made his first major change at administrative level by appointing a chief executive officer. This decision was endorsed by the council and is meant to give the administration a more effective corporate image. This change will ensure a new set-up throughout the association.

The person chosen for the new post is Bjorn Vassallo, a member of the executive committee and the council who relinquished his positions in order to assume his new duties.

His role as CEO entails various responsibilities common to all business executives and mainly concerning matters at the very top of the association. The three vice-presidents of the Malta FA will be in direct contact with the new CEO with regard to their duties in different areas.

Another new official is Antoine Portelli, an accountant by profession and a former council member. He replaced Alex Manfre as treasurer after the latter was elected vice-president in place of Peter Fenech. Carmel Bartolo and Ludovico Micallef have been re-elected as vice-presidents, while the general secretary, Joseph Gauci, has also kept his post, having been elected by the council for an indefinite term.

The former president, Joseph Mifsud, who served the association in top posts for 28 years, has been appointed honorary president, together with Giuseppe Mifsud Bonnici, also a former Malta FA president. ● Alex Vella

**Moldova**  
www.fmf.md

**100 years of football in Moldova**

The UEFA president, Michel Platini, was in Chisinau on 10/11 August to help celebrate 100 years of football in Moldova and to congratulate the country on laying the foundations for future footballing success.

Michel Platini attended Moldovan football's centenary celebrations and took the opportunity to meet officials from the Football Association of Moldova (FMF) – which was also marking its 20th anniversary – and the country's prime minister, Vlad Filat.

Numerous important guests from all over Europe were also invited, among them UEFA Executive Committee members Avraham Luzon, Mircea Sandu, Frantisek Laurinec, Grigoriy Surkis and Liutauras Varanavicius, and various national association presidents such as Lars-Ake Lagrell (Sweden), Gennadi Nevyglas (Belarus) and Zviad Sichinava (Georgia).

The centenary celebrations dominated the first part of the UEFA president's trip to the Moldovan capital after his arrival from Georgia. Michel Platini participated in a special anniversary event after first attending a veterans' match between teams from Moldova and Georgia. "It is a pleasure for me to be back in Moldova to mark 100 years of football here and 20 years since the establishment of the Football Association of Moldova," he said.

The UEFA president's visit to the country continued into Wednesday morning as he met the Moldovan prime minister, Vlad Filat, for talks focusing on cooperation between the state and the national football association. His final engagement was a tour of the FMF's national teams' training centre in Vadul-lui-Voda, where he was introduced to Moldovan players and their head coach, Gabi Balint.

At a media conference afterwards, the UEFA president praised the work of the FMF and its

president, Pavel Cebanu: "Football in Moldova has all the prerequisites for a great future. The FMF president has laid solid foundations for future success. The training facilities are a perfect example of sound football investment. I am pleased the FMF board understands the importance of proper football infrastructure."

Pavel Cebanu thanked his European governing body counterpart for his presence on what had been "a big day for Moldovan football". On the timing of his guest's two-day stay, he added: "Historians have recorded 29 August 1910 as the day when the first football match was played in Moldova. On 14 April we also celebrated 20 years of the Football Association of Moldova. Over this period we have been



The UEFA president and the president of the Moldovan FA, Pavel Cebanu, cut the birthday cake

working for the good of the game and I want to express my gratitude to all who have been part of this process. It's very important now that the next generation fall in love with football and start to play an active role."

Michel Platini signed off by expressing UEFA's full support of the current FMF administration: "We are on the same side and are working for the well-being of the game." ● Victor Daghi



## Netherlands

www.knvb.nl

### Farewell to Giovanni van Bronckhorst

Former Dutch team captain Giovanni van Bronckhorst received massive praise when he bowed out of national and international football in August. After an emotional farewell match against Real Mallorca in Rotterdam at his home stadium, De Kuip, the 35-year-old international, was honoured once again at the annual Telegraaf Footballer of the Year gala that was held in Hilversum at the end of August.

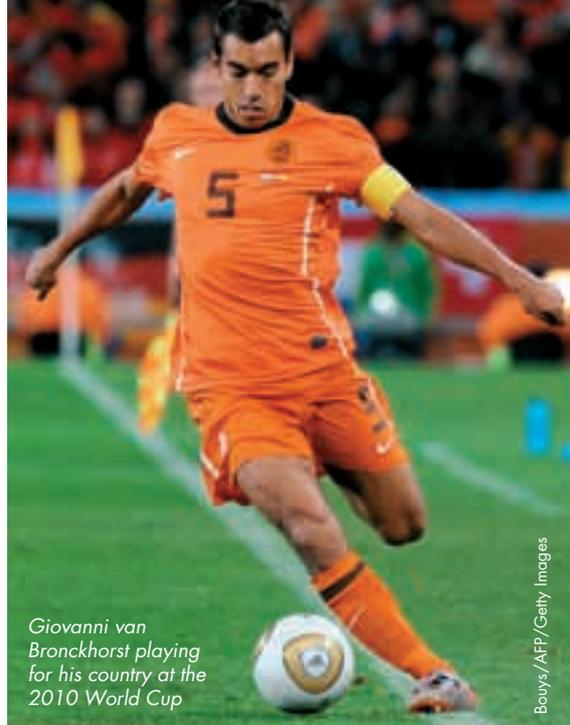
Giovanni, who scored a memorable goal during this year's World Cup semi-final against Uruguay with a long-range rising shot into the top corner, played no fewer than 106 international matches, in which he scored 6 goals.

Starting his career with Feyenoord as a youngster, he worked his way up to the first team before continuing his career with a number of top western European clubs, collecting

major prizes seemingly effortlessly. He won the Scottish championship twice with Glasgow Rangers before joining Arsenal FC, where he won the Premiership in 2002 and the FA Cup a year later. With FC Barcelona, he won La Liga in 2005 and 2006, crowning his club career with a win in the 2006 UEFA Champions League as well. In 2007 he returned to his old love, Feyenoord, where he won the domestic cup in 2008.

With the Dutch national team, Gio competed in six major final tournaments from 1998 (semi-finalist at the World Cup) to 2010 (World Cup runner-up). With a view to remaining in football as a coach, he recently started a UEFA A coaching diploma course. The Royal Netherlands Football Association (KNVB) immediately asked him to join the national Under-21 staff as assistant coach, so as put his vast experience to good use for the benefit of future stars.

● Rob de Leede



Giovanni van Bronckhorst playing for his country at the 2010 World Cup

Bouys/AFP/Getty Images



## Northern Ireland

www.irishfa.com

### Boosting attendances annually

The Irish Football Association (IFA) recently launched its new Carling Premiership season with the announcement of a new goal: to boost attendances at matches by 10% annually.

The new season, which kicked off in August, follows a hugely successful first year of Carling's sponsorship of the Premiership, with match attendances increasing by 6% and almost 12,000 additional fans passing through the turnstiles.

The plans announced by Carling and the Irish FA to increase attendances year on year include a new student project, with the University of Ulster working alongside local Premiership clubs to increase attendances and develop new facilities within the clubs. They will also be building on the success of popular initiatives such as the Carling Legends Nights and Carling Fan Days.

Hugh Wade, chairman of the Premiership management committee, said: "We are looking forward to working with Carling again and hope to build on the successes that we had last season. Our sponsor continues to support the



A target of 10% more spectators at Premiership matches

league, both financially and with additional marketing promotions, which has raised the league's profile to new levels. Attendance rising in each of the past two seasons is testimony to the quality of the players and teams in the league. I am sure we are in for another action-packed season and wish all competing clubs the best of luck for the new campaign."

Niall McMullan of Carling said he was also looking forward to another very successful season. "I'm excited to launch our second year of Premiership sponsorship on the back of an extremely successful first season for both the Carling brand and the Irish league itself. When we first announced the sponsorship this time last year we said we would provide not only funding but support to help boost attendances at games, and I'm delighted to see this has become a reality with over 12,000 additional fans in the last season," said Niall.

The new season promises to be an exciting one as the reigning champions, Linfield, go for their 50th league title. Last year's runners-up, Cliftonville, boosted by their recent success in Europe, will also be contending for the title, while Glentoran will hope to make a comeback. Donegal Celtic will be another one to watch, having made a return to the top flight.

The three-year deal signed by Carling last year marked a significant investment for the beer brand in local football and, at close to a quarter of a million pounds, is the highest investment in the local league's history. ● Graeme Beggs



## Republic of Ireland

www.fai.ie

### Paddy McCaul becomes new FAI president

The Football Association of Ireland (FAI) held its 2010 annual general meeting in August. Among the items decided at the meeting was the election of Paddy McCaul as president, following four successful years with David Blood at the helm. The last four years have been an enormously successful period for the game in the Republic of Ireland, during which time David has overseen huge developments, including the construction of the new Dublin Arena, which will host next year's UEFA Europa League final.

Replacing David Blood as president is the former vice-president, Paddy McCaul, who has a long and distinguished record in Irish football following his role as chairman with Airtricity League side Athlone Town FC before being elected chairman of the Airtricity League in 2005.

The FAI annual general meeting followed a successful week-long FAI festival of football on the southeast coast of Ireland, which included events such as club visits and official facility openings by FAI officials and ambassadors such as Packie Bonner, Ray Houghton and John Aldridge, while FAI development officers conducted coaching clinics and a week-long FAI/An Post summer soccer school in County Wexford. To conclude the FAI festival of football, Ireland's senior women's team played out a 1-1 draw with Russia in their FIFA Women's World Cup Group 6 qualifier at Ferrycarrig Park in Wexford in front of a sell-out crowd.

To mark the hosting of the general meeting and festival of football in Wexford, the FAI also made €100,000 available to 43 clubs in the county to provide funding for infrastructure projects as part of the club support scheme. However, after this hugely successful week, the FAI was sadde-



The new president of the FA of Ireland, Paddy McCaul

ned by the loss of FAI national council member John Sherlock following a road traffic accident on 22 August. John was a tremendously influential figure in youth and junior football in Ireland in his positions as vice-chairman of the FAI junior council, vice-president of the Connacht FA and secretary of the Roscommon district league. John was also a member of the FAI national council, the FAI development committee and the Connacht FA executive committee. ● Fran Whearty



**Scotland**

www.scottishfa.co.uk

**Together with the national team**

The Scotland national team has launched its UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying campaign slogan: *We stand together.*

The slogan was devised to unite the nation behind Craig Levein and his squad as they prepared to begin their Group I campaign with matches against Lithuania and Liechtenstein in the September double date. *We stand together* is an all-embracing motto and promotes the collective effort required if Scotland are to return to a European Championship final round for the first time since 1996.

Already, the 12 Scottish Premier League managers have done their bit by 'standing together' in support of Scotland's quest and the slogan launch also incorporated the Scotland supporters, the media and the country in general. Fans can stand together with the national team by signing up to the official Scotland Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/scotlandnationalteam](http://www.facebook.com/scotlandnationalteam).

The campaign slogan is particularly relevant at a time when the Scottish FA has initiated a review of the game in this country in the hope that Scotland can once again compete regularly in major championship finals.

Craig Levein, national team coach: *"Everything we've been working on since I became*



*The whole nation is standing together behind Craig Levein and his team*

*national coach has been building towards this moment – the start of the new campaign. Every detail makes a difference at this stage, and knowing that excitement is building throughout the country makes us determined to get things right.*

*"If we stand together as a nation I have no doubt that it will give us the added impetus we need to get Scotland back to the finals of a major championship."*

Darren Fletcher, Scotland captain, added: *"As players, it doesn't get much more exciting than the start of a new campaign, and I know that people up and down the country feel the same. The Scotland supporters always give us 100%, and going into the EURO 2012 campaign it will be an honour to pull on the jersey knowing that the whole country is standing together with us."*

● Darryl Broadfoot



**Switzerland**

www.football.ch

**Another step forward?**

Swiss women's football is enjoying a boom. The Swiss Football Association (SFV/ASF) now has more than 22,000 licensed female players, a number that no one would have believed possible a few years ago. Today, however, women's football is developing robustly not only at grassroots level but also at the top.

In the qualifying competition for the 2011 Women's World Cup in Germany, the senior national women's team finished top of their group and now have every chance of being part of the world's biggest women's football event next

year. Switzerland's Under-20 women's national team already made it to the U-20 Women's World Cup in Germany this year and several of the girls involved are already in the senior team. In order to strengthen its foundations even more, the SFV/ASF has taken another step. Following the creation of a girls' football training centre in Huttwil in summer 2004, a new Under-16 team is being set up to form a link between the training centre and the national U17, U19 and senior teams. We are keen to see whether, thanks to this move, Swiss women's football will take another step forward.

● Pierre Benoit

*Ana Maria Crnogorčević, one of the top players in the women's national team*



Sportsfile



**Turkey**

www.tff.org



*Each of Turkey's professional football divisions now has a title sponsor*

**Title sponsors for all professional leagues**

The Turkish Super League, which, based on the last tender for live broadcast rights, is one of the most valuable leagues in Europe, has found a new title sponsor. The deal with Spor Toto is valid from the beginning of 2010/11 and means the Super League will be called the Spor Toto Süper Lig for the next four seasons.

Spor Toto has also become the new sponsor of the Turkish Football Association's second and third divisions, now known as Spor Toto 2. Lig and Spor Toto 3. Lig. Along with Bank Asya's title sponsorship of the first division, this means all four professional leagues have a title sponsor for the first time in the Turkish Football Association's history.

Digiturk, a Turkish pay-TV provider, won package A of Turkish Super League broadcast rights in January 2010. This package, worth \$2 billion in total, covers the seasons 2010/11 to 2013/14.

● Türker Tozar

## Birthdays

**D**avid Blood (Republic of Ireland), vice-chairman of the Stadium and Security Committee, celebrates his 70th birthday on 16 October, as does **George W. Peat** (Scotland), vice-chairman of the Players' Status, Transfer and Agents and Match Agents Committee, on 29 October. Turning 60 in October are referee observer **Léon Schelings** (Belgium), on 3 October, and **Paul Philipp** (Luxembourg), vice-chairman of the UEFA Development and Technical Assistance Committee, on 21 October. UEFA also wishes many happy returns in October to:

Sir Trevor Brooking (England, 2.10)  
Levent Bicakci (Turkey, 2.10)  
Andrzej Wach (Poland, 2.10)  
Sir David Richards (England, 3.10)  
Julius Kvedaras (Lithuania, 3.10)  
Wilfried Heitmann (Germany, 4.10)  
Khennet Tallinger (Sweden, 4.10)  
Frank Coulston (Scotland, 5.10)  
Albert Hendrik Korthals (Netherlands, 5.10)  
Terje Hauge (Norway, 5.10)  
Jerzy Engel (Poland, 6.10)  
Mark J. O'Leary (Rep. of Ireland, 6.10)  
Angelo Brou (Portugal, 7.10)  
Armand Duka (Albania, 7.10)  
Jari Maisonlahti (Finland, 7.10)  
Zvonimir Boban (Croatia, 8.10)  
Pierre Delaunay (France, 9.10)  
Sergey Zuev (Russia, 9.10)  
Ellert B. Schram (Iceland, 10.10)  
Milovan Nikolic (Slovenia, 10.10)  
Joan Gaspart (Spain, 11.10)  
Bo Karlsson (Sweden, 12.10)  
Siegfried Kirschen (Germany, 13.10)  
George Brian Smith (Scotland, 14.10)  
Dusan Krchnak (Slovakia, 14.10)  
Tom van der Hulst (Netherlands, 15.10)  
Michel Piraux (Belgium, 15.10)  
Wendy Toms (England, 16.10)  
Konrad Plautz (Austria, 16.10)  
John Delaney (Rep. of Ireland, 16.10)  
Jean-Marie Philips (Belgium, 17.10)  
Frans Hoek (Netherlands, 17.10)  
Mark Arthur (England, 17.10)  
Adonis Procopiou (Cyprus, 17.10)  
Aivar Pohlak (Estonia, 19.10)  
Christian Müller (Germany, 19.10)  
Philip Pritchard (Wales, 22.10)  
Arie Wolf (Israel, 22.10)  
Mircea Sandu (Romania, 22.10)

Jan C. Huijbregts (Netherlands, 23.10)  
Michel Vautrot (France, 23.10)  
Dragutin Karlo Poljak (Croatia, 23.10)  
Christian Teinturier (France, 24.10)  
Pekka Hämäläinen (Finland, 25.10)  
Markku Lehtola (Finland, 26.10)  
Hugh Dallas (Scotland, 26.10)  
Gerard Perry (Rep. of Ireland, 27.10)  
Michael Cody (Rep. of Ireland, 28.10)  
Levan Paniashvili (Georgia, 28.10)  
Rui Cacador (Portugal, 29.10)  
George Fantaros (Cyprus, 29.10)  
Maria Persson (Sweden, 29.10)  
Alan McRae (Scotland, 31.10)  
Kurt Zuppinger (Switzerland, 31.10)  
Gijsbert van Oostveen (Netherlands, 30.10)

## Forthcoming events

### Meetings

**4.10.2010, Minsk**  
Executive Committee

**12.10.2010, Nyon**  
UEFA Futsal Cup: draw for the elite round

**18.10.2010, Nyon**  
Inauguration of UEFA's La Clairière office building

### Competitions

**25.09–3.10.2010**  
UEFA Futsal Cup: main round

**13/14.10.2010**  
UEFA Women's Champions League: round of 32 (return legs)

**19/20.10.2010**  
UEFA Champions League: group matches (matchday 3)

**21.10.2010**  
UEFA Europa League: group matches (matchday 3)

### Notices

- On 6 July, Sandor Csanyi was elected president of the Hungarian Football Federation.
- At its annual general meeting on 7 August, the Malta Football Association elected Norman Darmanin Demajo as its new president for a three-year term.
- On 21 August, the general meeting of the Football Association of Ireland elected Paddy McCaul as president.
- Marton Vági was appointed general secretary of the Hungarian Football Federation on 6 July.

### New publications

#### The European Football Yearbook 2010/11

In collaboration with UEFA.com, Mike Hammond has brought his traditional reference book on European football up to date. The result is a yearbook filling more than 1,100 pages with even more information than before on international competitions – from the World Cup to the UEFA youth championships and club competitions. A large section is also devoted to domestic championship and cup competitions, with a wealth of statistics and illustrations. (£25, [www.carltonbooks.co.uk](http://www.carltonbooks.co.uk))



#### Kupa e Botës – World Cup/4

Besnik Dizdari is one of the first to have produced a book about the 2010 World Cup. Written in Albanian, it also covers the 2006 World Cup and finishes with a chapter containing all the results of the Albanian national team in qualifying matches from 1964 to 2009. ([dizdarib@san.com.al](mailto:dizdarib@san.com.al))

#### You are the Ref – The Ultimate Illustrated Guide to the Laws of Football

Former referee Keith Hackett and illustrator Paul Trevillion have joined forces to produce this guide edited by David Hills and Giles Richards and published by Observer Books. In the form of illustrated questions and answers, it gives readers a better understanding of the Laws of the Game and their application by asking them to put themselves in the place of the referee. ([www.guardianbooks.co.uk](http://www.guardianbooks.co.uk))

### Match agents

Three new UEFA match agent licences have been issued:

**Marc König** – JSP Cologne Ltd  
Parkstrasse 63, 50968 Cologne, Germany  
Tel.: +49 221 888 778 11  
Fax: +49 221 888 778 19  
[info@jsprom.de](mailto:info@jsprom.de)

**Armin Somrak** – Public Sport  
Völkermarkter Ring 7/26,  
9020 Klagenfurt, Austria  
Tel.: + Fax: +43 463 501854  
Mob: +43 650 5002033  
[office@publicsport.at](mailto:office@publicsport.at)

**Jim Solbakken** – Solution AS  
Jacob Askelandsvei 5, P.O. Box 1006,  
4391 Sandnes, Norway  
Tel.: +47 516 39 680  
Fax: +47 516 39 601  
Mob: +47 481 47 850  
[jim@solution.as](mailto:jim@solution.as)

In addition, the licences of **Jacky Mouyal** (France) and **Lucien Rivat** (France) have been renewed for eight years.



**RESPECT**

The Opponent



**RESPECT**

Diversity



**RESPECT**

The Game