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YEARS • ANS • JAHRE

UEFA•direct

No. 140 | July-August 2014



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**Official publication of the
Union of European Football
Associations**

Chief editor:

Emmanuel Deconche

Produced by:

Atema Communication SA,
CH-1196 Gland

Printing:

Artgraphic Cavin SA,
CH-1422 Grandson

Editorial deadline:

6 August 2014

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Cover:

*Estádio do Maracanã,
Rio de Janeiro, 13 July
2014: Germany beat
Argentina in the World
Cup final*

Photo: Getty Images

EUROPE TRIUMPHS AT THE WORLD CUP

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For the first time ever, a European team has won the World Cup on American soil. In doing so, Germany also chalked up their fourth world title.



NETHERLANDS ADD THEIR NAME TO THE WOMEN'S U19 TROPHY

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By beating Spain in the final of the tournament played in Norway from 15 to 27 July, the Netherlands won the European Women's Under-19 Championship for the first time.



GERMANY TAKE THE U19 TROPHY

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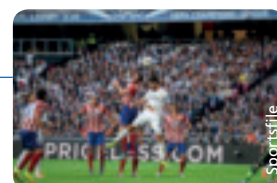
Germany beat Portugal in the European Under-19 Championship final in Hungary in July.



DISTRIBUTION OF CLUB COMPETITION REVENUES

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The clubs that took part in the 2013/14 UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League have received their share of the takings. Thanks to the solidarity system, the other top-division clubs also receive a contribution to spend on youth development.



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NEW INITIATIVES HERALD A NEW SEASON

The launch of the European Qualifiers with the innovative 'Week of Football' concept dominates the agenda as the 2014/15 season kicks off. The format gives fans across the continent a true appointment to view national team football across the continent. In this fresh approach, each Week of Football delivers six consecutive days of action via the international match calendar. Following the example successfully set for the UEFA Europa League, the schedule also includes multiple kick-off times at weekends.

The European Qualifiers, as well as the UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League, will also see referees using vanishing spray paint following its successful trial at the UEFA European Under-17 Championship final round in Malta earlier this year. Meanwhile, in all three competitions, UEFA will be continuing its fight to eradicate racist behaviour from football. For the European Qualifiers, 54 individual TV spots have been created for each member association to use at their home matches and with their host broadcaster. Consequently, the FARE action weeks in late September and early October will see 'No to Racism' activities taking place in both club and national team competitions for the first time.

From a club competitions standpoint, on the field, the winners of the UEFA Europa League will from this season have the added incentive of a place in the following season's UEFA Champions League play-offs, thereby boosting the appeal of the UEFA Europa League and strengthening the competition even further.

Off the field, the break-even requirements linked to the UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations are into their second season, and clubs seeking to play in the 2015/16 UEFA club competitions know that they will need to meet those requirements on top of qualifying on sporting merit.

The inaugural UEFA Youth League season proved a resounding success, culminating in victory for FC Barcelona in the final hosted at Colovray stadium in Nyon, next to UEFA's headquarters. As the competition enters the last of its two-season test phase, UEFA is considering possible alternative formats for the future. Access to the competition is presently reserved for the youth (Under-19) teams of the 32 participating clubs in the UEFA Champions League group stage, but proposals under discussion within the UEFA Club Competitions Committee would foresee the inclusion of more youth champions from more member associations, in order to broaden the representation.

Here's to an exciting new season.

Gianni Infantino
UEFA General Secretary

GERMANY CONQUER THE AMERICAS

Who else but Germany could overturn the curse? Before the 2014 FIFA World Cup, no European nation had ever triumphed when the tournament was staged in the Americas.

After a remarkable journey, the Germans put an end to that statistic and handed Europe its third World Cup title in a row, a new record.

Germany – deserved winners

Germany had not landed a major title since EURO '96, but the consistency of the team's results meant they were among the pre-tournament favourites. It was a status the Germans fully lived up to in Brazil, with flamboyant performances in their opening match against Portugal (4-0) and their historic victory over Brazil (7-1) in the last four. For many, Germany's title will be remembered for panache and attacking firepower (18 goals in 7 matches). At the same time, Philip Lahm and his team-mates also showed pragmatism in asserting themselves in matches in which they were less convincing, notably in extra time against Algeria (2-1) in the round of 16 and, above all, in the final against Argentina (1-0). The World Cup winning goal, scored by substitute Götze, highlights the depth of talent available to a generation that deserved (finally) to be anointed.

Netherlands come close again

Finalists in 2010, the Netherlands reached the semi-finals again this year, losing only on penalties to Argentina. It was a frustrating end for a team that had begun their campaign with magnificent revenge (5-1) against Spain, their vanquishers in 2010. Founded on a solid defence and an elusive Arjen Robben, the Dutch battled to reach the semis, beating Mexico (2-1) in the last 16, then Costa Rica in a quarter-final penalty shoot-out. The last-eight tie was characterised by a gamble by Louis van Gaal: the decisive introduction of substitute goalkeeper Krul moments before the victorious penalty shoot-out climax. The Netherlands concluded the competition with the consolation of a 3-0 win against Brazil in the third-place play-off.

France and Belgium will be back

After a fiasco in 2010, France gave a much better showing in Brazil. Impressive in attack, Les Bleus reached the quarter-finals with aplomb. There, they came up against champions-to-be

Dante, Luiz Gustavo and David Luiz could not stop Germany's Miroslav Klose from surpassing the World Cup scoring record of another Brazilian, Ronaldo (16 goals for Klose in four World Cups)



Germany in a match that will be tinged with regret for the French. Considering the qualities shown in Brazil, France should figure among the favourites when they host UEFA EURO 2016. That distinction will also be claimed by fellow quarter-finalists Belgium. Among the outsiders at the tournament, the Belgians were a little disappointing, only rarely managing to produce play worthy of the talent of their individuals. Nevertheless, it required a solid Argentina team to eliminate Eden Hazard and his team-mates – proof that they will be a team to watch in the years to come.

Satisfaction for Switzerland and Greece

Among the seeds in the final draw, the Swiss needed to reach the round of 16. And they accomplished that objective, despite a heavy defeat to France (2-5). In the last 16, Switzerland asked questions of Argentina until Di Maria scored in the closing minutes of extra time. Despite some regrets, Hitzfeld's men can be satisfied with their performances. That is a perspective to be shared by the Greeks, who were eliminated on penalties in the round of 16 by Costa Rica, the surprise package of the competition. To their credit, Greece found their way out of a tough group ahead of Ivory Coast and Japan.

Four major first-round casualties

By the end of the group phase, Europe had already been divested of four of its biggest names. World Cup holders Spain were the first team to be eliminated in Brazil after defeats to the Netherlands (1-5) and Chile (0-2). It was a surprise rout for the Spaniards, who could not extend their run of three titles in successive major tournaments. Drawn in the same group, England and Italy also bowed out of the competition before the knockout stages. After an exciting all-European head-to-head, which ended in an Italy victory over the English (2-1), both teams succumbed to Costa Rica and Uruguay, the latter eliminating the Italians in the closing minutes of the final group match. Despite the efforts of Cristiano Ronaldo, depleted by a

knee injury, Portugal suffered the same fate, never managing to find the cohesion that had yielded far better returns in recent international competitions.

From hope to despair

After a frustrating defeat to Brazil in the tournament's opening match, Croatia bounced back well against Cameroon, but could not withstand the grit of Mexico in the decisive match to reach the last 16. Russia made a similar



exit, unable to get the better of a refreshing Algeria team. Russia and England were the only European nations to leave Brazil without a win. The sole debutants in this year's World Cup, Bosnia and Herzegovina, suffered defeat to the seasoned campaigners of Argentina and Nigeria, but took consolation with a first victory in the event against Iran. ●

Julien Hernandez

Arjen Robben breaks away from Ezequiel Garay, but Argentina scrape through to the final on penalties. Meanwhile, the Oranje's World Cup curse continues...

FOCUS TURNS TO FRANCE



A fascinating and exciting FIFA World Cup in Brazil, with its memorable moments and heroic deeds, is behind us... and in Europe, the focus now switches to the eagerly awaited UEFA EURO 2016 qualifying competition,

which will culminate in the final tournament in France in two summers' time.

Ten French venues – Bordeaux, Lens, Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nice, Paris, Saint-Denis, Saint-Etienne and Toulouse – from 10 June to 10 July 2016, for the first time 24 sides will contest 51 final-round ties. France qualify automatically as the host country.

The record qualifying field of 53 nations have been drawn into nine groups of five or six teams. Matches will be played on a home-and-away basis between 7 September 2014 and 13 October 2015. The nine group winners, the nine group runners-up and the best third-placed side will qualify directly for the final tournament. The eight remaining third-placed teams will contest play-offs to determine the last four qualifiers. For the first time, qualifying takes place under the 'Week of Football' concept, with games played from Thursday to Tuesday. Each day of the Week of Football will provide eight to ten matches, which means that fans will be able to watch more qualifying matches than ever before. ●

NETHERLANDS WIN MAIDEN TITLE

Single goal beats Spain in women's Under-19 final.



André Koolhof admitted after the final played at Ullevaal Stadion in Oslo that Spain had played the better football but that his team had achieved the right result. *"This is the age when you should be learning how to play to get results,"* he commented. For the 48-year-old, the Netherlands' first-ever Women's Under-19 Championship title represented the perfect ending to his first year as head coach in the women's game.

RESULTS		
Group A		
15 July	Norway – Netherlands	0-0
15 July	Belgium – Scotland	0-2
18 July	Norway – Belgium	2-1
18 July	Netherlands – Scotland	3-2
21 July	Scotland – Norway	0-5
21 July	Netherlands – Belgium	1-0
Group B		
15 July	England – Sweden	0-2
15 July	Republic of Ireland – Spain	1-0
18 July	England – Republic of Ireland	1-2
18 July	Sweden – Spain	0-2
21 July	Spain – England	2-0
21 July	Sweden – Republic of Ireland	1-2
Semi-finals		
24 July	Norway – Spain	0-2
24 July	Republic of Ireland – Netherlands	0-4
Final		
27 July	Spain – Netherlands	0-1

There was a consensus among neutral observers that the Dutch and Spanish were, along with the hosts, the best sides at the event staged at six venues in and around Oslo from 15 to 27 July. But the line-up for the final tournament offered a rich weave of national characteristics and playing styles. *"From a player development point of view,"* said Sweden's coach, Calle Barrling, *"it was a wonderful opportunity for the girls to deal with different challenges in every match."*

Sweden had been drawn into a group with England, Spain and the debutantes from the Republic of Ireland – the latter turning out to be the dark horses of an entertaining and highly competitive tournament. The Irish opened with a surprise 1-0 victory over Spain, and followed up

by twice coming from a goal down to defeat England and Sweden – the former being obliged by the imminence of the FIFA Women's U-20 World Cup to take a young, inexperienced team to Norway. Spain, pleasing crowds with their trademark possession game, bounced back from their opening reverse with a brace of 2-0 wins against Sweden and England to claim second place behind the Irish.

Norway and the Netherlands opened the other group with the tournament's only goalless draw and then took six points each from Scotland and from the well-organised Belgium side that had sprung the surprise of the qualifying rounds by eliminating Germany. Gareth Evans' girls made history by becoming the first Scotland side to win a match at an U19 final tournament but, having beaten Belgium and expending energy in fighting back from 0-3 to 2-3 against the Dutch, ran out of fuel and were beaten 5-0 by a rampant Norway side which looked capable of lifting the trophy on home soil – until they crossed paths with Spain... Despite fervent support, the hosts failed to find answers to Spanish artistry and were beaten 2-0. In the other semi-final, the Irish bubble was burst by an impressive performance by the Dutch, conclusive 4-0 winners.

It was at this point that the tournament switched from the artificial surfaces of the 'provincial' venues to the real-grass pitch at the grandiose Ullevaal Stadion in the capital. But the organisation of the event by the Norwegian national association was impeccable enough to have everything under control – except the temperatures, which reached 36C to break a record that had stood since 1901. By the time the Spanish and Dutch teams ran on to the pitch for the final, they had trained on natural grass and adapted seamlessly enough to offer the crowd of over 4,000 a fascinating contest.

It was decided in the 21st minute. The predatory instincts of Dutch striker Vivianne Miedema had earned her five goals en route to the final and she coolly clipped a sixth over the advancing Spanish keeper. Spain replied with territorial dominance and delightful combination play but failed to find the net. After 90 minutes of entertaining football, it was Dutch captain Inessa Kaagman who became the first to lift the newly redesigned UEFA Women's Under-19 trophy. ●



ANOTHER TITLE FOR GERMANY

Victory over Portugal earns European trophy for Under-19s.



After beating Spain 3-1 in Spain in the elite round, Germany started the final tournament of the 13th European Under-19 Championship as favourites – and they lived up to their status by finding the mental strength to overcome anxious moments in the group game against Serbia and the final against Portugal. As coach Marcus Sorg said: *“The team succeeded in its footballing philosophy. We dominated games and tried to play offensively, unlike some other teams in the tournament.”* His reference to more conservative approaches stemmed from the fact that the top three in each group qualified for the FIFA U-20 World Cup and risk management was often a significant element.

Portugal and the defending champions, Serbia, were the only survivors from the 2013 finals at the final tournament efficiently organised from 19 to 31 July by the Hungarian national association in two main centres, Budapest and Győr. The host team disappointed its fans by losing against Austria and Portugal – the latter on a matchday marked by torrential rain which had players emitting plumes of spray like Formula 1 cars on a rain-soaked track. Fortunately for Hungary, final tournament debutants Israel also lost their first two games, converting the direct encounter between the two teams into something akin to a final, given the World Cup place at stake. Hungary shaded it by scoring two of the three goals that hit the net during 14 first-half minutes.

The other group – and matches within it – went right to the wire. Serbia conceded in the first minute against Ukraine and could glean no more than a 1-1 draw. The champions were then leading Germany 2-1 until 90+1, when captain Niklas Stark equalised. Bulgaria were beaten by an 88th-minute goal against Ukraine. And, when the final matches kicked off, all four teams had hopes of reaching the semi-finals. In the event, Germany clinched top spot with a 2-0 win against Ukraine (who earned the third World Cup berth), while Serbia had to wait until the 90th minute for a solitary Staniša Mandić goal to keep their title defence alive.

The reward was a semi-final against a Portuguese side that scored 11 times and won all three group games. But 120 gruelling minutes failed to yield a goal and, after both sides had failed once from four spot kicks, it was Portugal's substitute keeper Tiago Sá who became the hero of the night by saving Serbia's fifth and giving his side a 4-3 shoot-out win. Austria's coach, Andreas Heraf, admitted that his side had gone into the other semi-final overawed by Germany,



and a considerably less dramatic game ended with a comfortable 4-0 win within the 90 minutes for Marcus Sorg's side.

Portugal seemed to pay a toll for greater expenditure of energy when the final kicked off at the Ferenc Szusza Stadion in Budapest. Germany dominated an entertaining first half and went 1-0 ahead six minutes before the break when mid-fielder Marc Stendera crossed low from the right and Hany Mukhtar turned the ball in at the near post.

It was from the hour mark, with coach Hélio Sousa making attacking substitutions, that Portugal slipped into 'nothing to lose' mode and the game became an end to end spectacle. Portugal were driving forward in 4-2-4 formation; Germany were countering with pace and panache. Amazingly, none of the plethora of chances had an effect on the scoreboard and, when the Spanish referee signalled the end of a fascinating tournament, it was Germany who lifted the UEFA Under-19 trophy, for the first time in six years. ●

RESULTS

Group A

19 July	Portugal – Israel	3-0
19 July	Hungary – Austria	1-3
22 July	Austria – Israel	3-0
22 July	Hungary – Portugal	1-6
25 July	Israel – Hungary	1-2
25 July	Austria – Portugal	1-2

Group B

19 July	Ukraine – Serbia	1-1
19 July	Bulgaria – Germany	0-3
22 July	Germany – Serbia	2-2
22 July	Bulgaria – Ukraine	0-1
25 July	Serbia – Bulgaria	1-0
25 July	Germany – Ukraine	2-0

Semi-finals

28 July	Portugal – Serbia	0-0*
*Portugal win 4-3 on penalties		
28 July	Germany – Austria	4-0

Final

31 July	Portugal – Germany	0-1
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THREE COUNTRIES SHARE THE SPOILS

As UEFA celebrates its 60th anniversary, we continue our review of six memorable decades with a look at the 1970s – an era when the game became ever more sophisticated and UEFA consolidated its position as European football’s governing body.

AFC Ajax proved too strong for FC Internazionale Milano in the 1972 European Champion Clubs’ Cup final in Rotterdam, with Johan Cruyff (right) scoring twice for the gifted Dutchmen



Dutch flamboyance, German power and English spirit dominated the European Champion Clubs’ Cup in the 1970s, with clubs from those three countries winning the trophy every single year in that decade.

The 1970s saw the flowering of some brilliant talent in the Netherlands, a hitherto relatively unheralded football country. Amsterdam side AFC Ajax put the Dutch on the map by reaching the final of the Champion Clubs’ Cup in 1969, but it was their Rotterdam-based rivals Feyenoord that ushered in a new European order the following year by taking home the trophy.

The stage was then set for Ajax to galvanise the game. Masterminded by the dazzling attacking skills of local boy Johan Cruyff, Ajax swept all before them with their swashbuckling “total football”, in which defenders and attackers exchanged positions, leaving opponents bewildered and beaten. Ajax lifted the Champion Clubs’ Cup in 1971, 1972 and 1973, as well as winning the hearts of football enthusiasts. *“Dutch football was very much emerging at that time,”* said Cruyff. *“It was a really different development for football itself ... and it had an enormous impact on the whole world, which eventually led to a lot of respect for Dutch football.”*

Cruyff moved to FC Barcelona after the third title, and Ajax’s reign came to an end. This

cleared the way for FC Bayern München to land their own hat-trick of European crowns. The German club’s talismans were elegant libero Franz Beckenbauer and lethal goalscoring machine Gerd Müller. In the 1974 final, Bayern scored a last-gasp equaliser in Brussels to earn a replay – the first ever – against Club Atlético de Madrid, before easing to a 4-0 win when the teams met again a couple of days later. The next two years saw the solid Bavarians maintain their grip on the trophy.

England holds sway

By 1977, the cradle of football had roused itself. English clubs finally came good, making their mark at Europe’s highest level. The first to do so were Liverpool FC. This footballing giant craved success and was given it – first by Kevin Keegan in 1977, and then, after Keegan’s transfer to Hamburger SV, by his successor, Scotsman Kenny Dalglish, in 1978.

The winners in 1979 provided an astonishing success story. In 1975, Nottingham Forest FC were languishing in the English second division when they appointed Brian Clough as manager. Clough’s unique managerial and motivational style triggered a meteoric rise. In 1977, Forest were promoted, and remarkably, they then won the English championship the next year with a

side still containing players who had been at the club when the charismatic Clough had arrived. When Forest then carried off the Champion Clubs' Cup in 1979, the fairy tale was complete. For good measure, they proved that their triumph had been no fluke when they picked up the trophy again in 1980.

Birth of the third club competition

A new competition emerged on the European scene in the 1971/72 season. The UEFA Cup followed in the footsteps of the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup, which had been created in the 1950s as a tournament for representative teams from European cities that regularly held trade fairs. The change of name was recognition of the fact that the competition was now run by UEFA and no longer associated with trade fairs. Tottenham Hotspur FC were the first winners, beating Wolverhampton Wanderers FC 3-2 on aggregate in an all-English two-legged final. Liverpool, Feyenoord, VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach, Juventus and PSV Eindhoven were the other UEFA Cup winners in the 1970s.

The European Cup Winners' Cup, which had been launched in the early 1960s, was fully justifying its existence by the 1970s and produced some fitting winners in that decade – RSC Anderlecht, Manchester City FC, Chelsea FC, Rangers FC, 1. FC Magdeburg, AC Milan, FC Dynamo Kyiv and Hamburger SV. In 1973, UEFA also recognised the European Super Cup, which was contested by the winners of the Champion Clubs' Cup and the Cup Winners' Cup.

EURO excitement

In 1972, Belgium hosted the four-team final round of the European Championship, with the outstanding West German side emerging victorious. Coach Helmut Schön built a superb squad around Bayern stars Beckenbauer and Müller – both at the height of their powers – flowing midfielder Günter Netzer and attacking left-back Paul Breitner, and the Germans made no mistake, hammering the USSR 3-0 in the final. *"Everything worked," Müller recalled. "We had a good harmony and understood each other very well. That also goes for when we were on the pitch. You cannot ask for more."*

One of football's most memorable moments settled the destination of the 1976 European Championship title in Yugoslavia. The dramatic penalty shootout in the final culminated in Czechoslovakia midfielder Antonín Panenka audaciously chipping the ball over West German goalkeeper Sepp Maier to win the trophy for his country. *"I chose that penalty because I realised it was the easiest and simplest way of scoring a goal," he later said. "It's a simple recipe. I got the idea that if I delayed the kick and just gently chipped it, a goalkeeper who dived towards the corner of the goal could not jump back up into the air."* Meanwhile, UEFA had noted the growing success of the tournament, and

decided in 1977 that the 1980 finals would be contested by eight teams.

Time of modernisation

In July 1972, Gustav Wiederkehr, UEFA's president for the last ten years, passed away suddenly. On 15 March 1973, Artemio Franchi was elected as his successor. The Italian made a significant contribution to the modernisation of UEFA's competitions, advocating an increase in the number of teams contesting the final round of the European Championship, as well as overseeing the early years of the UEFA Cup. He was tireless in trying to reduce violence in the game, and he was acutely aware of the power that football held as a social phenomenon.

A multitude of important decisions were taken. Binding recommendations were issued on maintaining order in stadiums (1976); UEFA's disciplinary bodies (the Control and Disciplinary Committee and the Board of Appeal) were separated from the rest of UEFA's administration and guaranteed independent status (1972); and standard regulations were adopted for all UEFA club competitions (1972). Other major items on the agenda included the relationship between football and television in the wake of technological developments, as well as football's place within Europe's political union.

In addition, UEFA was on the move again – this time within the Swiss federal capital, Berne. In 1960, UEFA had set up home in the basement of a rented house in the city, before moving to Berne's House of Sport in 1962. On 11 February 1974, the general secretariat finally moved into a home of its own in a residential area in a suburb of Berne. UEFA's growing responsibilities also necessitated an increase in personnel. In 1960, UEFA's General Secretary, Hans Bangerter, had been accompanied by two secretaries. By 1979, however, the number of UEFA staff had risen steadily to stand at 18, and the next eventful decade beckoned... ●

An audacious penalty to win the 1976 European Championship. A subtle chip by Czechoslovakia's Antonín Panenka is on its way to the net – with West Germany's goalkeeper Sepp Maier already beaten and disappearing towards the corner of his goal...



CREATING A BRIGHT FUTURE

UEFA has established partnerships with a number of organisations as part of its Football for all Abilities portfolio, which fosters the use of football as a tool promoting the inclusion of players of all abilities, as well as marginalised or excluded groups. The Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPISRA) does outstanding work as one of these partners.

CPISRA, which was formed in 1978, is an international organisation for athletes with cerebral palsy or a related neurological condition. It was awarded UEFA's CHF 1 million Monaco charity cheque in 2007.

CPISRA has its own version of football, a modified seven-a-side game, and the body has made effective use of UEFA's cheque by pursuing a Europe-wide development programme for that form of the game. Participants learn team and individual football skills and have the chance to compete and improve their health. While the pinnacle of CPISRA's football calendar is the Paralympic Games, which take place every four years, European players also compete in the CPISRA Football Seven-A-Side European Championships, the latest edition of which took place in Maia, Portugal, in late July and early August.

At just 21, Lars Conijn has captained the Dutch CPISRA national team and won over 50 caps for his country



Tom Langen is the chairman of the CPISRA football seven-a-side committee. *"CPISRA creates sporting opportunities for people who have cerebral palsy or have, for example, suffered a traumatic brain injury or a stroke,"* he says. *"We also have other sports, such as athletics and RaceRunning. We have about 64 members worldwide, 33 of whom are in Europe, and 37 of our worldwide members play football. Eleven members took part in the European championship, and we have other countries who play CP football, but do not yet take part in international competitions."*

A number of countries also have national leagues, supported by their national football associations, and CPISRA's football organisers are striving tirelessly to continue the progress which has been made. *"It's definitely a big challenge to develop the sport,"* says Tom Langen. *"We are active at various levels, including educating coaches regarding CP football. We offer specific support to countries staging courses or organising tournaments. We have produced one promotional DVD and are finalising another. UEFA's support is extremely valuable, because it represents recognition for what we are doing."*

Pride in playing

The pride in playing for a national team is immeasurable. At just 21 years of age, Lars Conijn is captain of the Netherlands. *"I've played in world and European competitions and won over 50 caps for my country. Every time I wear the orange shirt, it's a great feeling,"* says the midfielder, who plays for WSV 1930 in his home town of Wormer, near Amsterdam.

Football has proved to be an invaluable source of development and friends for many CPISRA players. *"I feel that I've developed as a person since I got in the national team at 16,"* says Lars Conijn. *"I've met people from other countries and cultures. I've experienced a lot of things."* *"Football is a stimulating factor,"* adds Tom Langen. *"You can see how the players grow in confidence and how it helps them in other areas of life."*

UEFA's backing is helping to create a bright future for CPISRA and its football. *"I'm very optimistic,"* Tom Langen says. *"I'm convinced that things will continue to grow."* CPISRA's role is exemplary as it pursues its vision of a world where all people with cerebral palsy or a related condition have the opportunity to participate in a sport or recreational activity of their choice. ●

THE FIGHT AGAINST RACISM IN EUROPEAN FOOTBALL

Since 2010, UEFA has supported a series of academic research projects related to football through its Research Grant Programme. In the first of a new series summarising different research projects funded by the programme, Mark Doidge presents his research.

When the banana landed on the turf, Dani Alves nonchalantly picked it up and took a bite, before proceeding to take the corner. The Brazilian's actions quickly went viral, as players from around the world showed their solidarity and photographed themselves eating bananas. This simple response demonstrated the futility of the abuse. It also showed that players were willing to take a stand. Unfortunately, many players are continuing to experience racism in football matches across Europe. This may involve politically motivated announcements by fan groups – such as the Landsrona group's demands that FC Zenit St Petersburg sign only players from Slavic and Scandinavian nations. It may also involve emotional responses in the stadium, like the bananas thrown at Alves or the ritualistic 'monkey chants' directed at Mario Balotelli in Italy and Jozy Altidore in the Netherlands. It was the actions of Kevin-Prince Boateng, AC Milan's Ghanaian midfielder, who walked off the pitch after being targeted by Pro Patria fans in January 2013, which inspired this research.

Football fans become the focus in these situations; the sport in general and *all* fans are seen as the problem. Aside from the fact that

football fans are a heterogeneous group, this overlooks the hard work that many groups of fans are undertaking. The aim of this research was to understand how fans are challenging racism from the bottom up. Organisations like FARE, Italy's UISP and Never Again in Poland are working hard on campaigns highlighting the harmful effects of racism. These organisations are vital to communicate a clear message across Europe.

The supporters' tackle

Other fan organisations have also found ways of tackling racism and xenophobia in the stadium. Fan projects in Germany work with fans and the authorities in order to tackle various types of anti-social behaviour associated with football. These act as a social space where fans can mix safely. They also run courses to educate fans about the impact of violence, racism and extreme politics. This idea has been developed in Poland with Kibice Razem. It is early days in Poland, but these forms of fan engagement can potentially establish a dialogue with fans and help to challenge certain kinds of behaviour.

Football clubs are vital to the success of these campaigns and projects. Borussia Dortmund are a model club in this respect. They actively challenge racism and political extremism and support their fan project through educational initiatives. Young fans attend sessions at the stadium, which clearly links the message with the club. Attendees also get a stadium tour and potentially the chance to see their favourite players. Jürgen Klopp, Dortmund's head coach, and other star players actively endorse these sessions, and this helps to reinforce the message communicated to fans.

One of Dortmund's groups of ultras, The Unity, proposed organising a trip to Auschwitz so that young fans could see the dangers of discrimination. The fan project helped to organise this and tied it in with a larger educational initiative. The football club also provided the team bus, so that fans clearly understood the importance of these activities.

Racism is a continual battle. Football merely reflects wider society, and the challenge for the sport is a tough one. However, like no other activity, football also provides a space in which to bring people together, and thanks to the hard work of fan projects, Kibice Razem, ultras and organisations like UISP and Never Again, we can slowly challenge some of these actions. ●

Mark Doidge



Mark Doidge is a research fellow at the School of Sport and Service Management at the University of Brighton. He is the author of *Football Italia: Italian Football in an Age of Globalisation* (Bloomsbury, 2015). ●



Borussia Dortmund's first-team coach, Jürgen Klopp, has got on board the anti-racism campaign initiated by the club's supporters



DISTRIBUTION TO PARTICIPATING CLUBS



The 32 clubs that competed in the 2013/14 UEFA Champions League group stage shared €904m in payments from UEFA, matching the record outlay from the previous season.

Teams	Play-offs	Participation bonus	Performance bonus	Market Pool	Round of 16	Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Final	Total €
Group A									
Manchester United FC		8,600,000	5,000,000	23,775,000	3,500,000	3,900,000			44,775,000
Bayer 04 Leverkusen		8,600,000	3,500,000	10,735,000	3,500,000				26,335,000
FC Shakhtar Donetsk		8,600,000	3,000,000	2,450,000					14,050,000
Real Sociedad de Fútbol	2,100,000	8,600,000	500,000	8,174,000					19,374,000
Group B									
Real Madrid CF		8,600,000	5,500,000	20,514,000	3,500,000	3,900,000	4,900,000	10,500,000	57,414,000
Galatasaray AŞ		8,600,000	2,500,000	6,472,000	3,500,000				21,072,000
Juventus		8,600,000	2,500,000	31,998,000					43,098,000
FC København		8,600,000	1,500,000	11,392,000					21,492,000
Group C									
Paris Saint-Germain		8,600,000	4,500,000	33,917,000	3,500,000	3,900,000			54,417,000
Olympiacos FC		8,600,000	3,500,000	11,806,000	3,500,000				27,406,000
SL Benfica		8,600,000	3,500,000	3,274,000					15,374,000
RSC Anderlecht		8,600,000	500,000	3,142,000					12,242,000
Group D									
FC Bayern München		8,600,000	5,000,000	18,716,000	3,500,000	3,900,000	4,900,000		44,616,000
Manchester City FC		8,600,000	5,000,000	18,302,000	3,500,000				35,402,000
FC Viktoria Plzeň	2,100,000	8,600,000	1,000,000	1,528,000					13,228,000
PFC CSKA Moskva		8,600,000	1,000,000	5,585,000					15,185,000
Group E									
Chelsea FC		8,600,000	4,000,000	18,491,000	3,500,000	3,900,000	4,900,000		43,391,000
FC Schalke 04	2,100,000	8,600,000	3,500,000	8,120,000	3,500,000				25,820,000
FC Basel 1893	2,100,000	8,600,000	3,000,000	1,684,000					15,384,000
FC Steaua Bucureşti	2,100,000	8,600,000	1,500,000	5,100,000					17,300,000
Group F									
Borussia Dortmund		8,600,000	4,000,000	14,725,000	3,500,000	3,900,000			34,725,000
Arsenal FC	2,100,000	8,600,000	4,000,000	11,132,000	3,500,000				29,332,000
SSC Napoli		8,600,000	4,000,000	25,998,000					38,598,000
Olympique de Marseille		8,600,000	0	23,815,000					32,415,000
Group G									
Club Atlético de Madrid		8,600,000	5,500,000	17,148,000	3,500,000	3,900,000	4,900,000	6,500,000	50,048,000
FC Zenit	2,100,000	8,600,000	2,500,000	4,771,000	3,500,000				21,471,000
FC Porto		8,600,000	2,000,000	3,618,000					14,218,000
FK Austria Wien	2,100,000	8,600,000	2,000,000	2,174,000					14,874,000
Group H									
FC Barcelona		8,600,000	4,500,000	21,475,000	3,500,000	3,900,000			41,975,000
AC Milan	2,100,000	8,600,000	3,500,000	21,999,000	3,500,000				39,699,000
AFC Ajax		8,600,000	3,000,000	9,604,000					21,204,000
Celtic FC	2,100,000	8,600,000	1,000,000	7,966,000					19,666,000
Clubs eliminated at the play-off stage	21,000,000								21,000,000
Totals (€)	42,000,000	275,200,000	96,000,000	409,600,000	56,000,000	31,200,000	19,600,000	17,000,000	946,600,000

In addition, the clubs involved in the play-offs – ten of which advanced to the group stage, with the other ten joining the UEFA Europa League group stage – shared €42m, meaning that the total participation payments topped €946m. This amount does not include the surplus that will be calculated and distributed to the 32 participating clubs after closing the accounts. The UEFA Champions League clubs will share an additional amount of around €40m, bringing the total close to €1bn.

Each club was entitled to a minimum payment for participation in the competition. Additionally, performance bonuses were paid for every win or draw in the group stage and each knockout round progressed past. Monies from the market pool were divided according to the proportional value of the national TV market allocated to each individual club, among other factors. Unsurprisingly, eventual winners Real Madrid CF secured the

highest payment from the UEFA Champions League, their €57.4m including the standard €8.6m participation bonus, more than €20.5m from the market pool and over €28m in performance monies, including €10.5m for their final victory.

The figures in the table (left) were published at the end of the 2013/14 season and do not reflect any rulings then pending concerning breaches of the UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations. They do not include solidarity payments to any of the clubs participating in the qualifying rounds, nor do they include any additional solidarity payments made to leagues for club youth development projects or any additional surplus payments to clubs. The total distribution figures for the 2013/14 UEFA Champions League will be communicated once all payments have been completed during the 2014/15 season. ●

The 2013/14 UEFA Champions League ended with an all-Madrid final in Lisbon



REVENUE DISTRIBUTED TO PARTICIPATING CLUBS



More than €200m in payments from UEFA has been shared by the 56 clubs that competed in the UEFA Europa League in 2013/14.



FC Sevilla played 19 matches before lifting the UEFA Europa League trophy in Turin on 14 May

The revenue generated by the centralised marketing of the 2013/14 UEFA Europa League – plus an additional contribution from the UEFA Champions League clubs – has been redistributed among the 48 clubs that took part in the group stage and the eight sides that joined the competition in the round of 32 after coming third in their UEFA Champions League groups. An additional €20m or so will be distributed once the accounts have been finalised. Sevilla FC received €14.6m for their victorious UEFA Europa League campaign, €3.5m more than the highest earners in the 2012/13 competition, while Olympique Lyonnais received the second largest amount at just over €10.1m.

The figures in the table (right) were published at the end of the 2013/14 season and do not reflect any rulings pending at that time with regard to breaches of the UEFA Club Licensing and Financial Fair Play Regulations. They do not include solidarity payments made to clubs – including those involved in the group stage – that participated in the qualifying rounds, nor do they include additional solidarity payments made to leagues for clubs' youth development projects or any other payments made to clubs. The total distribution figures for the 2013/14 UEFA Europa League will be communicated in the course of the 2014/15 season, once all payments have been made. ●

	Participation bonus	Performance bonus	Market Pool	Round of 32	Round of 16	Quarter- finals	Semi- finals	Final	Total €
Group A									
FC Kuban Krasnodar	1,300,000	500,000	1,374,648						3,174,648
Valencia CF	1,300,000	1,300,000	3,612,749	200,000	350,000	450,000	1,000,000		8,212,749
Swansea City AFC	1,300,000	800,000	1,650,698	200,000					3,950,698
FC St Gallen	1,300,000	400,000	251,855						1,951,855
Group B									
PFC Ludogorets Razgrad	1,300,000	1,500,000	554,990	200,000	350,000				3,904,990
GNK Dinamo Zagreb	1,300,000	100,000	85,540						1,485,540
FC Chornomorets Odesa	1,300,000	900,000	309,618	200,000					2,709,618
PSV Eindhoven	1,300,000	500,000	911,297						2,711,297
Group C									
Esbjerg fB	1,300,000	1,000,000	1,409,787	200,000					3,909,787
FC Salzburg	1,300,000	1,600,000	315,547	200,000	350,000				3,765,547
IF Elfsborg	1,300,000	300,000	618,692						2,218,692
R. Standard de Liège	1,300,000	100,000	222,548						1,622,548
Group D									
FC Rubin Kazan	1,300,000	1,400,000	1,696,303	200,000					4,596,303
SV Zulte Waregem	1,300,000	500,000	222,548						2,022,548
Wigan Athletic FC	1,300,000	400,000	2,121,735						3,821,735
NK Maribor	1,300,000	700,000	97,943	200,000					2,297,943
Group E									
FC Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk	1,300,000	1,000,000	309,618	200,000	350,000				3,159,618
ACF Fiorentina	1,300,000	1,500,000	5,234,902	200,000					8,234,902
FC Paços de Ferreira	1,300,000	300,000	303,361						1,903,361
CS Pandurii Târgu Jiu	1,300,000	200,000	1,033,468						2,533,468
Group F									
APOEL FC	1,300,000	400,000	100,811						1,800,811
Eintracht Frankfurt	1,300,000	1,400,000	4,395,458	200,000					7,295,458
FC Girondins de Bordeaux	1,300,000	200,000	4,380,701						5,880,701
Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC	1,300,000	1,000,000	78,942	200,000					2,578,942
Group G									
SK Rapid Wien	1,300,000	500,000	188,989						1,988,989
FC Dynamo Kyiv	1,300,000	900,000	309,618	200,000					2,709,618
KRC Genk	1,300,000	1,400,000	495,602	200,000					3,395,602
FC Thun	1,300,000	200,000	251,855						1,751,855
Group H									
Sevilla FC	1,300,000	1,300,000	5,012,120	200,000	350,000	450,000	1,000,000	5,000,000	14,612,120
SC Freiburg	1,300,000	500,000	3,350,079						5,150,079
FC Slovan Liberec	1,300,000	900,000	247,728	200,000					2,647,728
Estoril Praia	1,300,000	300,000	303,361						1,903,361
Group I									
HNK Rijeka	1,300,000	400,000	85,540						1,785,540
Real Betis Balompié	1,300,000	900,000	2,545,343	200,000	350,000				5,295,343
Olympique Lyonnais	1,300,000	1,300,000	6,564,561	200,000	350,000	450,000			10,164,561
Vitória SC	1,300,000	400,000	500,361						2,200,361
Group J									
Legia Warszawa	1,300,000	200,000	1,374,648						2,874,648
Apollon Limassol FC	1,300,000	300,000	156,811						1,756,811
Trabzonspor AŞ	1,300,000	1,400,000	4,965,139	200,000					7,865,139
SS Lazio	1,300,000	1,100,000	6,881,981	200,000					9,481,981
Group K									
Tromsø IL	1,300,000	100,000	1,424,372						2,824,372
FC Sheriff	1,300,000	500,000							1,800,000
FC Anji Makhachkala	1,300,000	800,000	2,433,630	200,000	350,000				5,083,630
Tottenham Hotspur FC	1,300,000	1,600,000	2,489,592	200,000	350,000				5,939,592
Group L									
AZ Alkmaar	1,300,000	1,300,000	2,426,249	200,000	350,000	450,000			6,026,249
PAOK FC	1,300,000	1,100,000	2,421,804	200,000					5,021,804
FC Shakhter Karagandy	1,300,000	200,000	54,706						1,554,706
Maccabi Haifa FC	1,300,000	400,000	60,178						1,760,178
Clubs from the UEFA Champions League									
FC Shakhter Donetsk			32,434	200,000					232,434
Juventus			5,025,115	200,000	350,000	450,000	1,000,000		7,025,115
SL Benfica			767,995	200,000	350,000	450,000	1,000,000	2,500,000	5,267,995
FC Viktoria Plzeň			59,126	200,000	350,000				609,126
FC Basel 1893			260,025	200,000	350,000	450,000			1,260,025
SSC Napoli			1,050,392	200,000	350,000				1,600,392
FC Porto			285,956	200,000	350,000	450,000			1,285,956
AFC Ajax			180,931	200,000					380,931
Totals (€)	62,400,000	36,000,000	83,500,000	6,400,000	5,600,000	3,600,000	4,000,000	7,500,000	209,000,000

OVER €80 MILLION FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Revenue from the UEFA Champions League also benefits top division clubs that do not participate in the competition. Over €80 million of the UEFA Champions League revenue for the 2013/14 season will be redistributed to these clubs to use in youth development or local community projects.

The money is distributed via the professional leagues or the national associations. Based on the final 2013/14 revenue figures, approximately €82.4 will be made available for distribution to the clubs in question.

The associations are divided into two categories for the purposes of these payments:

- those associations represented in the 2013/14 UEFA Champions League group stage (€68.5m);
- those associations which had no clubs in the 2013/14 UEFA Champions League group stage (€10.9m).

The first category comprises 18 national associations, which will each receive a minimum of €570,000, the same amount as last year. The second category is made up of the 36 other national associations, which will receive a minimum of €280,000, again the

same as last year. The amounts distributed vary depending on the value of the domestic television markets of the member associations.

An additional payment (€2.9m in total) is made to the 20 national associations that were represented in the play-offs.

In principle, the money should be shared equally between all clubs concerned in each league or association. However, as this money is intended for youth development or local community projects, a club must have a youth development programme that complies with the requirements stipulated in the national club licensing manual accredited by UEFA.

Any exception to this rule is subject to the approval of UEFA, to whom the leagues/associations must provide detailed information on the payments made. •



Youth football benefits from the success of the UEFA Champions League

Payments to national associations represented in the group stage

2013/14 season	Play-offs		Total
	€	€	€
Italy	13,182,977	145,000	13,327,977
England	11,815,873	145,000	11,960,873
Spain	11,092,473	145,000	11,237,473
France	9,513,928	145,000	9,658,928
Germany	8,617,998	145,000	8,762,998
Greece	1,945,449	145,000	2,090,449
Denmark	1,877,188		1,877,188
Russia	1,706,534	145,000	1,851,534
Netherlands	1,582,810	145,000	1,727,810
Scotland	1,312,837	145,000	1,457,837
Portugal	1,135,699	145,000	1,280,699
Turkey	1,066,584	145,000	1,211,584
Romania	840,468	145,000	985,468
Austria	570,000	145,000	715,000
Czech Republic	570,000	145,000	715,000
Switzerland	570,000	145,000	715,000
Belgium	570,000		570,000
Ukraine	570,000		570,000
TOTAL	68,540,818	2,175,000	70,715,818

Payments to national associations not represented in the group stage

2013/14 season	Play-offs		Total
	€	€	€
Poland	458,130	145,000	603,130
Croatia	305,858	145,000	450,858
Norway	548,152		548,152
Bulgaria	304,900	145,000	449,900
Slovenia	290,630	145,000	435,630
Kazakhstan	283,515	145,000	428,515
Sweden	385,346		385,346
Republic of Ireland	326,160		326,160
Hungary	319,696		319,696
Serbia	318,499		318,499
Cyprus	307,438		307,438
Israel	306,336		306,336
Bosnia-Herzegovina	293,120		293,120
Finland	292,594		292,594
Malta	290,918		290,918
Albania	289,481		289,481
Belarus	285,746		285,746
Iceland	285,650		285,650
FYR Macedonia	285,076		285,076
Azerbaijan	284,788		284,788
Slovakia	283,984		283,984
Montenegro	283,850		283,850
Lithuania	283,831		283,831
Georgia	283,668		283,668
Latvia	280,958		280,958
Moldova	280,575		280,575
Estonia	280,479		280,479
Armenia	280,622		280,622
Andorra	280,000		280,000
Faroe Islands	280,000		280,000
Gibraltar	280,000		280,000
Liechtenstein	280,000		280,000
Luxembourg	280,000		280,000
Northern Ireland	280,000		280,000
San Marino	280,000		280,000
Wales	280,000		280,000
TOTAL	10,960,000	725,000	11,685,000

NEW DFM GRADUATES

On 6 June, 37 new graduates were awarded the UEFA Diploma in Football Management (DFM) at a ceremony at the House of European Football in Nyon, completing the third and – for the time being – last edition of this specific course.

The Diploma in Football Management – one of a series of educational initiatives implemented by UEFA – has proved to be extremely beneficial to Europe's national football associations, as it has allowed their staff to enhance their expertise in key areas of the organisation of football events (e.g. volunteer management, stadium management, marketing operations, public relations and media operations).

The aim has been for DFM students to take what they have learned back to their respective associations and make use of their new experience and know-how, while also exchanging ideas with representatives of other associations – with the result that European football as a whole progresses. The diplomas are issued through the Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration (IDHEAP) at the University of Lausanne.

"You are joining a community of graduates," Thierry Favre, UEFA's head of national association development, told the new graduates. "This is a community of qualified professionals who share a common understanding of some of the key management principles applicable to football associations. This community also bears a certain amount of responsibility: the knowledge you have learned is of no use if it is not applied."

"We hope these degrees will help you to better manage your various tasks within your national associations, and even open up new career paths for you," added IDHEAP professor Jean-Loup Chappelet. "I am sure you will play an important role in the future of football in Europe."



Participants at the DFM graduation ceremony in Nyon

The DFM has served as an important stepping stone within UEFA's education programme, following on from the UEFA Certificate in Football Management (CFM) and building up to the Executive Master in European Sport Governance (MESGO). More than 250 people have graduated from the CFM and DFM courses since they were introduced in 2010.

The DFM is now being put on hold as UEFA expands its CFM activities across Europe. Specific editions of the CFM will take place in a number of countries in cooperation with various host associations, involving greater numbers of participant, following successful pilot editions in Croatia and England. Elements of the DFM course will also be included in the revamped CFM programme. ●

ENCOURAGING TALENTED YOUNG PLAYERS

A new UEFA project designed to help Europe's national associations to foster talented young footballers has recently been launched.

The UEFA Elite Youth Player Development Programme will help to nurture talented young players, especially in medium-sized and smaller associations. Three associations – those of Armenia, Georgia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – attended an inaugural workshop in Nyon on 24 and 25 June after being chosen as pilot associations for the programme.

Under-14 and Under-15 players are the focus of the scheme, the objective being to implement a technical and educational programme within

participating associations, given that proper football education, schooling and conduct are important elements of a young player's development.

The inaugural workshop highlighted, among other things, the importance of coordinators at youth academies to strike the right balance between schooling and football, as well as the need to put in place scouting systems to detect and discover promising young footballers. ●

BRIGHTENING UP THE LIVES OF SYRIAN REFUGEES

Friday 20 June was World Refugee Day, and UEFA marked the occasion by supporting a football tournament at a refugee camp in northern Jordan, helping to improve the lives of Syrians living there.

A key element of UEFA's mission involves contributing to football activities in other parts of the world. UEFA demonstrates its solidarity through a series of memorandums of understanding and activities, with further development of these initiatives planned for the future.

In December 2012, UEFA and the Asian Football Development Project (AFDP) signed a memorandum of understanding to promote cooperation and friendly relations between the two. As part of that process, UEFA is helping to improve the lives of young Syrian refugees in Jordan.

Since September 2013, UEFA has been supporting a football programme at the Za'atari refugee camp in northern Jordan. That programme seeks to use football's power and popularity to bring

some cheer to the children in the camp. For example, a tournament for Under 15 boys' and girls' teams was organised at the camp on 20 June to mark World Refugee Day. The two finals were followed by an official trophy and medals ceremony.

In addition to regular tournaments, weekly training sessions take place at the camp. The children are supervised by trained coaches and have the opportunity to play football and master new skills, while also learning core values such as respect, fair play, team spirit and solidarity. Support is also provided through the supply of equipment. The UEFA President, Michel Platini, visited the Za'atari refugee camp last summer with HRH Prince Ali Bin Al-Hussein, a fellow FIFA vice-president and the chairman of the AFDP. ●

A FIRST SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY WORKSHOP

UEFA held its first social responsibility workshop at the House of European Football in Nyon on 19 June.



The participants in the first social responsibility workshop

Eighteen football and social responsibility partners exchanged information about their core business and the projects they run with UEFA's support. Football plays an invaluable role in driving social development, bringing its influence to bear across society, and UEFA's social responsibility policy is carefully structured and designed to both create and retain long-term benefits for society through football.

UEFA's social responsibility portfolio is based mainly on a selection of five-year strategic partner-

ships focusing on the following issues: the fight against discrimination and the promotion of diversity; social integration and reconciliation; active and healthy lifestyles; increasing access and playing opportunities for disabled fans and players; and funding football foundations' programmes.

UEFA recently published its first ever Football and Social Responsibility Report, covering the 2012/13 season, to which all partner organisations contributed. ●

MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS



Albania
www.fshf.org

New futsal pitch at prison in Fushe-Kruje

A new futsal pitch has recently been installed at the prison in Fushe-Kruje, about 50km northeast of the capital city, Tirana, where inmates will now have the opportunity to relax a little by playing football.

This initiative by the Football Association of Albania (FSHF) – which is, incidentally, not the first time that the FSHF has taken football into prisons – was accompanied by an interesting and thoroughly unique inauguration ceremony. A team of prisoners played an exhibition match

against an FSHF side, with the association's team made up of former stars of the Albanian national side, such as Vasillaq Zëri, Altin Lala, Sulejman Demollari, Altin Raklli, Erjon Bogdani and Redi Jup. The match was watched by dozens of inmates. The home side eventually prevailed, beating the former internationals in a penalty shoot-out.

The match was also attended by the minister for justice, Nasip Naço, the president of the FSHF, Armand Duka, and senior representatives of the ministry of justice and the department of prisons, as well as media representatives. "This investment does not relate solely to the game



A group photo before the match

of football. It is obviously something that will also support the integration of prisoners, helping them to overcome their stresses and worries through sport," Armand Duka said. The FSHF has also given the prison a large amount of football equipment (such as balls, kit, tracksuits and boots), which will be used by the prisoners for their football activities.

● Tritan Kokona



Austria
www.oefb.at

Showing extremism the red card at football matches

The Austrian ministry of home affairs, the Austrian Football Association (ÖFB) and the Austrian Bundesliga have launched an initiative aimed at stamping out extremism, racism and discrimination at football matches.

In mid-July, Johanna Mikl-Leitner, Austria's minister for home affairs, Leo Windtner, president of the ÖFB, and Hans Rinner, president of the Austrian Bundesliga, joined William Gaillard, advisor to the UEFA President, Jo Vanhecke, chairman of the Council of Europe's standing committee on spectator violence, and Josef Langer, general secretary of Sports Media Austria, an association of sports journalists, to announce an initiative aimed at stamping out extremism,



Left to right: Josef Langer, Jo Vanhecke, Hans Rinner, Johanna Mikl-Leitner, Leo Windtner and William Gaillard

racism and discrimination at football matches.

The results of a number of joint workshops have led to the adoption of a comprehensive package of measures whereby all parties will "take concerted further action to eradicate extremism, racism and discrimination from our stadiums," Johanna Mikl-Leitner explained.

With numerous activities at grassroots level, such as the Integration World Cup, the Homeless

World Cup and the 'Fair Play – Many Colours, One Game' initiative, the ÖFB has already successfully taken action in this area. "For years now, the ÖFB and its members have promoted tolerance, opposed all forms of discrimination and sought to foster integration in all areas of society," Leo Windtner said.

That new package of measures includes steps to promote cooperation between schools, the ministry of home affairs, the ÖFB and the Austrian Bundesliga, the establishment of permanent working groups bringing together the police and the judiciary, the involvement of external experts such as social workers, closer cooperation with the media and security services, the use of sociological studies and communication and various channels (especially social media).

● Wolfgang Gramann



Azerbaijan
www.affa.az

Manchester United Soccer Schools visit Azerbaijan

Bakcell – the leading mobile operator and mobile internet provider in Azerbaijan – has launched a brand new project within the framework of its 'Football with Bakcell' programme. Bakcell, a partner of Manchester United FC, one of the world's most famous football clubs, is continuing to invest in Azerbaijani football.

Bakcell has invited coaches from the Manchester United Soccer Schools (MUSS) to come to Azerbaijan, thereby taking its contribution to Azerbaijani football to a whole new level. This initiative is a fantastic opportunity to discover talented young Azerbaijani players and turn them into top players of the future.

"I want to thank all the children who have participated in the selection process. All over the country, young children have shown great potential. The children who visited Manchester last year are now taking their football more seriously, as are the majority of the children who took part in the selection process. I would like to thank the AFFA for organising this project. I hope that the children will be able to take full advantage of this opportunity," said Ainur Abzhanova, Bakcell's chief marketing officer.

One of the most famous football academies in the world, Manchester United Soccer Schools

have discovered big-name players such as David Beckham, Paul Scholes and Ryan Giggs.

Selection rounds were held in Baku and several other regions of Azerbaijan (Tovuz, Ganja, Gax and Sumqayit), with the support of the Association of Football Federations of Azerbaijan (AFFA). A total of 32 talented young players between the ages of 8 and 12 were chosen to participate in final training sessions held by MUSS coaches at Bakı FK's training ground. From them, Valeh Samadov, Zarrar Mammadov, Ali Abbasov, Ramin Nasirli and Durakhan Dovlatkhanov were then chosen to go to Manchester.

Last year's visit to Manchester contributed greatly to the development of youth football in Azerbaijan. The six talented young players visited the legendary Old Trafford stadium and participated in an MUSS training camp, as well as attending a football school at Manchester's Denstone College. One of the participants, Tamerlan Rizvanov, even qualified for the MUSS World Skills Final.

Elkhan Mammadov, secretary general of the AFFA, described this project as a significant event for Azerbaijani football: "This is the second year that a selection process for the Manchester United Soccer Schools has been held in our country. The selection process spanned almost the entire country. Of the 800 or so who participated, 32 children were selected to attend the final training sessions in

Baku. Five of those children were then selected by guest coaches from the Manchester United Soccer Schools. I hope that those children will go on to contribute to the development of football in this country."

Former Manchester United FC player Dwight Yorke, who participated in the training camp in Baku and congratulated the children on making it to that stage, said: "This is the second time that I have visited Azerbaijan. The organisation has been of a high standard, which we are, of course, delighted with. We are very pleased that the children are so enthusiastic. The five children who will be chosen this week will perhaps see their greatest dreams realised. It will be an unforgettable experience for them. Attending a training camp in Manchester will have a positive impact on their future football careers, and they will share their experiences with their team-mates when they return to Azerbaijan. I think the children will love Manchester."

● Ulviyya Najafova



Dwight Yorke presents the medals



Belarus
www.bff.by

New training centre for national teams

Just a few weeks after the opening of the new Borisov Arena, the Football Federation of Belarus (BFF) has another successful infrastructure project to cheer about. All work on the new training centre next to the BFF's offices has now been completed. The site, which boasts one



The new national team training centre

natural grass pitch and two high-quality artificial pitches, will be used by all of Belarus's national men's and women's teams. All of the pitches are heated and can be used throughout the year, which is extremely important given the weather conditions in Belarus. It is essential for a football association to have its own training facilities, in order to make it easier to plan training

camps, as well as for obvious economic reasons. While several training sessions have already been held on the new pitches, the 500-seat stand next to the natural grass pitch means that the complex can also be used for international friendlies. On 29 and 31 July, it played host to its first matches as the Belarusian Under-19 team took on their counterparts from Georgia.

● *Alexander Aleinik*



Belgium
www.belgianfootball.be

Strength in unity

We had to wait 12 long years to see Belgium play in a major international tournament, but the FIFA World Cup in Brazil was a great success and certainly worth the wait – both in sporting terms and as regards the fervour of our supporters.

Belgium had one of the youngest teams in the tournament, so our players were embarking on something of a journey into the unknown, but the team quickly dispelled any doubts, securing nine points out of nine in the group stage – a first for Belgium at a World Cup. They then delivered an excellent performance against the United States in the round of 16. They created a whole string of chances, and despite a fantastic performance by the opposing goalkeeper, Tim Howard, the Red Devils eventually prevailed, making it through to the quarter-finals. They may have "only" won 2-1 after extra time, but they impressed many with the quality of their football.

Our tournament then came to an end at the quarter-final stage, following a defeat by the

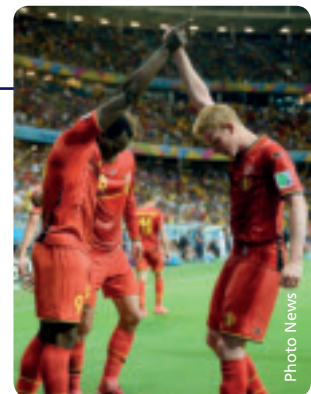
narrowest of margins (1-0) against eventual finalists Argentina. That match could have gone either way, but quick thinking and an unstoppable strike by SSC Napoli's Gonzalo Higuaín put Argentina in a strong position, and the South Americans then used all of their experience to retain that advantage.

Although there was understandably disappointment at being knocked out in such a close game, the dominant feeling was certainly pride at being one of the top eight teams in the world. Moreover, in addition to those great results on the pitch, we should also highlight the unbridled passion of our supporters. Besides those who were fortunate enough to travel to Brazil to cheer the Red Devils on, there was truly feverish support back home throughout the tournament. TV viewing figures reached record levels (with 90 % of viewers watching the match between Belgium and the United States, the highest level ever recorded), and the countless giant screens erected all over Belgium allowed hundreds of thousands of supporters to watch and dream together, enjoying the thrill of the World Cup matches.

'Strength in unity' is one of Belgium's mottos, and it is no exaggeration to say that it was precisely that unity which carried the Red Devils to the quarter-finals of the World Cup in Brazil. Indeed, in addition to their supreme physical fitness, our team impressed with the quality of their substitutes, the substitutions made by coach Marc Wilmots often proving to be spot on.

The experience of this tournament will remain firmly engraved in the country's collective memory. For our team, however, this is certainly not an end in itself. Instead, this marks the beginning of a new era of success, and the next target has already been set – qualification for UEFA EURO 2016 in neighbouring France.

● *Pierre Cornet*



Romelu Lukaku and Kevin De Bruyne, symbols of unity and ambition



Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.nfsbih.ba

Dragons short on luck in Brazil

June 2014 will always have a special place in the history of football in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Indeed, the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil was the first time that Bosnia and Herzegovina's national team – the Dragons – had taken part in a major tournament. After nine qualifying campaigns – for four EUROS and five World Cups – the Dragons finished top of Group G last autumn and qualified automatically for the tournament in Brazil.

After playing very well in our first match, where we lost 2-1 to Argentina at Estádio do Maracanã in Rio de Janeiro, our performance in our next match, against Nigeria, was completely the opposite, with a 1-0 defeat spelling the end of our hopes of qualifying for the next round. Before the tournament, the head coach, Safet Sušić, and his players had announced that making it to the knockout stage was their main objective. Unfortunately, despite all of their efforts, they did not succeed. They lacked a bit of luck, especially in the match against Nigeria. However, the lack of experience of major tournaments also played a significant role. They then beat Iran 3-1 in Salvador in their final match of the tournament.

All in all, the players, coaching staff and fans should not be too disappointed at the Dragons'

failure to qualify for the knockout stage. They were motivated, showed real quality and prepared well for the tournament.

The Dragons played without fear and with great confidence against the double world champions in their first visit to the famous Estádio do Maracanã. After conceding an own goal in the third minute, they scored their first goal of the tournament in the closing stages through Vedad Ibišević. Against Nigeria, when victory was essential, the efficiency that the Dragons had shown throughout their qualifying campaign deserted them. In all three matches, the Dragons played open, attacking football and tried to win; they did not go to Brazil to defend.

This failure should not affect the players, and it certainly will not affect the fans. The same atmosphere will remain after Brazil, and we will start afresh with our qualifying campaign for EURO 2016, showing the same desire to succeed. We have quality players, but now it is necessary to introduce more young players, increase

competition for every place in the team and find worthy replacements for some of our veterans. There is not a lot of time, since the qualifying matches for EURO 2016 are just around the corner, starting in September.

Safet Sušić's contract expired after the tournament in Brazil, but the Bosnia and Herzegovina Football Federation's executive committee quickly decided to renew it for a second time, extending it by another two years. Given their previous qualifying campaigns, the Dragons and their supporters will understandably expect to be going to their first ever EURO. They have quite a difficult group, though. The favourites are Belgium, who showed their quality in Brazil, securing a place in the quarter-finals. Second place in Group B would also mean automatic qualification for EURO 2016, but the Dragons will be aiming to top their group. To do that, they will need to maintain the positive atmosphere and begin their preparations immediately. Indeed, after games at home against Cyprus (9 September) and away against Wales (10 October), Bosnia and Herzegovina play host to favourites Belgium on 13 October in Zenica. The other teams in Group B are Andorra and Israel. Before the qualifying campaign begins, the Dragons will play a friendly at home to Liechtenstein in Tuzla on 4 September.

● *Fuad Kravac*



Getty Images

Grassroots World Cup in Sofia

The Bulgarian Football Union (BFU) recently organised a mini World Cup tournament for boys and girls in primary schools in Sofia, celebrating both UEFA Grassroots Day and the FIFA World Cup in Brazil. This was the third year in a row that the BFU had organised this tournament, and the association again enjoyed the support of both Sofia's city council and the Bulgarian ministry of foreign affairs. A total of 32 schools participated in the tournament, each representing one of the teams at the FIFA World

Cup. In seven-a-side games, the tournament schedule mirrored that seen in Brazil.

The final was contested by the 63rd Hristo Botev School, representing Mexico, and the 119th Michail Arnaudov School, representing Chile. Mexico beat Chile 5-3, and the winners were awarded their trophy by Michail Kassabov, vice-president of the BFU.

The tournament was organised in support of Sofia's bid to be voted European Capital of Culture for 2019 and European Capital of Sport for 2017.

● Pavel Kolev



A mini World Cup for primary school children in Sofia

BFU

Pletikosa, Eduardo and Vukojević announce international retirement

Three long-standing national team players – Stipe Pletikosa, Eduardo Alves da Silva and Ognjen Vukojević – have decided to retire from international football after participating at the FIFA World Cup in Brazil.

Stipe Pletikosa earned 114 caps for Croatia. He made his international debut on 10 February 1999 against Denmark and has been a permanent fixture in the Croatian national team over the last decade and a half. Pletikosa appeared at five major tournaments – two EUROs (in 2008 and 2012) and three World Cups (in 2002, 2006 and 2014) – and is rightly one of the most popular players in Croatia's modern history.

"Stipe has decided that this is the moment to call time on his career, and we all respect that. He has made a significant mark on the Croatian jersey, both as a goalkeeper and as a person. We are sincerely grateful to him," said Davor

Šuker, president of the Croatian Football Federation (HNS).

With 64 caps and 29 goals, Eduardo Alves da Silva retires as the second best international goalscorer in Croatia's history. Eduardo's performances and goals repaid the faith shown in him by the HNS and its head coaches, and he certainly made the very most of the opportunity to represent Croatia at international level.

FC Dynamo Kyiv midfielder Ognjen Vukojević retires with a total of 55 caps to his name. The 30-year-old paid tribute to the HNS, his team-mates and the Croatian fans: "At this very emotional moment for me, I would like to say thanks to the Croatian Football Federation for everything they have done for the national team, to our loyal supporters, who have always stood by us, to former managers Slaven Bilić and Igor Štimac for everything they have done for the national team and for me personally, to the team-mates who have fought alongside me in all those Croatian victories, and to the entire Croatian public."

Meanwhile, the new Croatian club season has recently begun, with HNK Rijeka beating GNK Dinamo Zagreb 2-1 in the Croatian Super Cup. Samardžić and Moises scored for Croatian Cup holders Rijeka, securing the Super Cup for the first time in the club's history.

● Tomislav Pacak



Drago Sopota/HNS

Stipe Pletikosa salutes the crowd after his last international match

Increase in respect across the game

Figures for the 2013/14 season suggest that the Respect programme run by The Football Association (The FA) is continuing to go from strength to strength at all levels of the game in England. Cautions for dissent are down by 20 % and misconduct is down by 10 % across all levels of affiliated football, from the English Premier League right down to the county FA's leagues, via the Football League and The FA's National League System.

In addition to Premier League clubs Liverpool FC and newly promoted Burnley FC, a number of other winners from across the game were recognised at The FA's Respect and Fair Play Awards, which took place at Wembley Stadium on Sunday 10 August, prior to the FA Community Shield. With more than 550 nominations for those awards, The FA was keen to reward everyone who had immersed themselves in the Respect programme and recognise the contributions that all the various people, leagues and clubs had made to football in England.

Dermot Collins, The FA's Respect manager, said: "Respect is the collective responsibility of everyone involved in football to create a fair, safe and enjoyable environment in which the game can take place. Launched in 2008, the Respect programme has raised awareness of appropriate behaviour, both on and off the pitch, for players, coaches and spectators alike."

The new discipline figures comprise data from a total of 1,150 leagues, spanning 117,000 teams and an estimated 1.4 million fixtures. Comparing last season's figures with those from 2008/09 – the first season under the Respect programme – points to a number of encouraging developments:

- total cautions are down by 4 % (from 354,855 to 341,874);
- cautions for dissent are down by 20 % (from 106,568 to 86,032);
- cautions for dissent are down as a percentage of total cautions (from 30 % to 25 %);
- total dismissals are down by 13 % (from 54,268 to 47,604);
- misconduct charges in relation to team officials or spectators are down by 10 % (from 19,938 to 17,969).

In addition, 112 FA grassroots leagues submit Respect marks at the end of each game, with a total of around 148,000 reports being submitted last season. The average mark out of 5 for conduct was 4.6, while the average mark out of 5 for enjoyment was 4.4.

In terms of match officials, England now has 28,204 registered referees – up from around 23,000 in 2008. Referees' coverage of fixtures has improved considerably, as has their enjoyment of games.

Youth football in England has also been improved, with the introduction of designated spectator areas, Respect training for coaches, codes of conduct, pitchside marshals, parent briefings and Respect signage.

● Greg Demetriou

First female coach awarded UEFA A licence

In early June, 16 Faroese coaches were awarded the UEFA A licence, which is the highest coaching certificate available in the Faroe Islands. Among those coaches was a woman, Ingun Hansen, who became the first female coach in the Faroe Islands to be awarded the UEFA A licence.

The coach education system in the Faroe Islands is essentially divided into two parts. First there is the UEFA B licence, which covers basic coaching skills, and then coaches have the opportunity to proceed to the UEFA A licence.

To be awarded the A licence, a coach has to take part in various courses over at least an 18-month period, with supervisors from the

Faroe Islands Football Association (FSF) visiting the coaches at their local clubs and observing their training sessions.

As part of their studies, the 16 newly graduated coaches also went on a study tour to Denmark, where they visited two of Denmark's biggest clubs, FC København and Brøndby IF.

The A licence course ends with a written report on a specific subject, followed by the final exam.

There are ten teams in the Faroese Premier League (Effodeildin), and the FSF's rules state that coaches in that division have to hold the A licence. The same applies to the coaches of all Faroese national teams, both at senior and at youth level.

The FSF's intention is for all clubs to hire coaches with A licences as their main youth



team coaches. Several clubs have already done so, and many more will hopefully follow suit in the very near future.

Ingun Hansen is a coach at Skála ÍF, a relatively small Faroese club. She has been a well-known figure in the country's football family for many years and is currently the assistant coach of the Faroese women's Under-19 team.

The newly graduated class of A licence coaches is the fourth group of Faroese coaches to be awarded the UEFA A licence. There are now some 62 UEFA A licence holders in the Faroe Islands.

• Terji Nielsen

The other major football event of the summer

For the 14th summer in a row, the French Football Federation (FFF) has been entertaining holidaymakers on the French coast with its beach soccer tour.

On 28 June, the FFF set off again to take its beach soccer roadshow to France's finest coastal locations, visiting a total of 13 resorts on the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. The programme includes games of beach soccer, competitions testing the power and accuracy of your shooting, freestyle workshops and performances, quizzes and giveaways. The tour continues until 19 August.

All of these activities are free of charge and aimed at everyone – from young children right up to adults.



Beach soccer has been entertaining holidaymakers on the beaches of France

"Giving people the opportunity to play and enjoy themselves – simply taking part – is the key aim of this summer tour, which the Amateur Football League regards as the realisation of all of its efforts to make football more fun and accessible to everyone," says Lionel Boland, president of the Amateur Football League (which is part of the FFF).

• Laura Goutry

Gibraltar record their first ever international victory

Playing in only their fifth international friendly, Gibraltar's national team recently recorded their first ever victory, beating Malta 1-0 at Estádio Algarve in Portugal. A superbly placed left-foot volley by forward Kyle Casciaro,

following a headed pass by Joseph Chipolina, was enough to see off the Maltese challenge in a game that was keenly contested and ultimately proved to be a truly momentous occasion for Gibraltarian football.

This result, in what will be Gibraltar's final game before the start of their qualifying campaign for EURO 2016, is one that will boost morale in the camp and show what the national team can achieve at this level.

Gibraltar's captain, Roy Chipolina, said: *"I think we gave a very professional performance, and we are delighted that everything we worked on in training paid off on the pitch. It feels unbelievable to record our first victory in only our fifth game under UEFA, and we cannot wait for the qualifying matches for EURO 2016 to begin."*

With Germany, Poland, Scotland, the Republic of Ireland and Georgia joining Gibraltar in Group D, the qualifying campaign will no doubt be extremely tough, but everyone at the Gibraltar Football Association is looking forward to welcoming those five teams to Estádio Algarve and visiting their respective countries and associations for the return legs.

• Steven Gonzalez



Gibraltar enter the field for their first international win

Nitzan Shirazi passes away aged 43

Nitzan Shirazi – a former coach of Hapoel Tel-Aviv FC, Hapoel Haifa FC and Maccabi Petach-Tikva FC – has passed away at the age of just 43 after a battle with cancer.

Shirazi began his coaching career with Maccabi Tel-Aviv's youth team, and in 2003/04 he was appointed head coach of Bnei-Yehuda Tel-Aviv FC, after which he went to Maccabi Petach-Tikva and Hapoel Haifa – all Premier League sides.

In 2012 Shirazi was appointed head coach of Hapoel Tel-Aviv, going on to win the Israeli Cup in his first season at the club.

However, in September 2012 he stepped down as head coach on account of his health. Very sadly, he passed away on 22 July at the age of just 43.

Avraham Luzon, president of the Israel Football Association, said: *"Nitzan was a real role model: an excellent young coach who wanted to learn and achieve more every day. Over the past year and a half, he was also a role model in the way that he fought this dreadful disease and refused to give up. It is desperately sad to see him leaving us so young – far too soon. May his soul rest in peace."*

• Michal Grundland



Nitzan Shirazi

Vivo Azzurro enjoys successful World Cup

In spite of the Azzurri's disappointments on the pitch, the World Cup proved an excellent launch pad for www.vivoazzurro.it, the Italian Football Federation's (FIGC) website devoted to Italy's various national teams, the fans and Italian football as a whole. During June 2014, the online community for supporters of the Italian national team – which was given a new look for the tournament, together with more editorial content and a full English version – recorded nearly 1.5 million views and more than 550,000 unique visitors.

Every day during the FIFA World Cup in Brazil, the Italian multimedia website Vivo Azzurro provided football fans with access to live press conferences, a national team diary,

Q&A sessions with members of the squad, video reports about the host cities and the Vivo Azzurro 'café', where players proposed topics for discussion on the national team's various social media platforms.

During the World Cup, the website and the associated Vivo Azzurro social media platforms showcased exclusive videos from the FIGC Vivo Azzurro channel, which used YouTube to broadcast live press conferences from Brazil, as well as interviews and other content involving members of the Italian squad.

The Italian national team's official Facebook page registered 610 million views, and was second only to Germany in terms of peak weekly interactions, which hit 2.8 million, having been first by some distance at the end of the group stage. The national team's two Twitter accounts active during the World Cup



The Italian FA's new website has been proving very popular

(@Vivo_Azzurro in Italian and @Azzurri in English and Portuguese) attracted 400,000 followers.

The FIGC Vivo Azzurro Google+, Instagram and YouTube accounts were also linked to www.vivoazzurro.it. During June, the YouTube channel registered more than 9.2 million minutes of viewing.

● Barbara Moschini

Football festival for orphaned children

One of Lithuania's biggest football events this summer was the regular football festival run by the Lithuanian Football Federation (LFF) for children in orphanages. This social initiative – entitled 'Meet the world on the football pitch' – is going from strength to strength. Indeed, this was the ninth time that the event had been held, and this year's festival attracted a very large number of participants – more than 240 children from orphanages all over Lithuania. The festival was modelled on the FIFA World Cup, with the children divided up into 32 different teams – each representing a country that participated in the FIFA World Cup in Brazil.

After the football matches, all of the teams had special parties. The children, who were between the ages of 10 and 14, visited the zoo, attended special showings at a cinema dedicated solely to them, and sang and danced. The high level of interest in the football festival shows



The festival brought a ray of sunshine to the lives of the orphans

that football brings happiness and joy to everyone – both on and off the pitch.

This was not the first time that these orphans had met, and they already have a positive mindset on the pitch, understanding that winning is not the most important thing. The key thing is to take part and make friends. This summer camp has become a key event in the calendar and has a number of positive and beneficial effects.

According to the festival's organiser, Vaidotas Rastenis, the children repeatedly said that these

three days together were the best days of the whole year. Hearing the children say that is the best possible reward. At the same time, it also spurs us on to organise more festivals in future years. This is the best kind of feedback, and we are now looking to develop new activities for children, which is a great challenge. This project is a perfect example of how football can unite children and adults from various Lithuanian cities for a single purpose. It is always fun to see the children doing their best to entertain themselves and their friends from other cities, and it is great to see them taking care of younger players, looking after or helping them.

When looking at the kind of people who work at the Lithuanian Football Federation, it is also telling that three LFF employees have adopted children from orphanages: one has adopted a newborn baby, while two others have decided to adopt older children. This is a really positive example, and we would like to think that these good examples will encourage others in society to follow suit.

● Vaiva Zizaitė

UEFA study group in Malta

Recently, a group of administrators and coaches from Georgia, Gibraltar, Liechtenstein and Malta attended a UEFA study group on grassroots football organised by the Malta Football Association's technical centre under the auspices of UEFA as part of the UEFA Study Group Scheme.

There were many interesting discussions, as participants shared details of the activities organised in their respective youth sectors.

The visitors were shown around Malta's technical centre (the focal point for its grassroots development activities), various academy complexes and the national school of sport. This was followed by practical sessions conducted by the coaches of the women's national team and teachers at the school of sport.



The UEFA Study Group Scheme participants

The event began with an address by Norman Darmanin Demajo, president of the Malta Football Association. After welcoming the guests, he explained the good work that the association has embarked on in recent years, especially its target of replacing all football pitches with artificial turf.

At the end of the event, participants were presented with UEFA certificates by the association's technical director, Robert Gatt. They all agreed that the study group had been a great success.

This was the last of a series of UEFA study groups organised during the 2013/14 season, in which more than 30 Maltese coaches visited Turkey, Scotland and Switzerland to discuss issues relating to elite youth football, grassroots football and coach education.

● Alex Vella



A new official magazine

In June the Football Association of Moldova (FMF) launched a new official magazine, 'Fotbal în Moldova'.

The UEFA President, Michel Platini, and the coach of the Moldovan women's Under-17 team, Alina Stetenco, appeared on the cover of the first issue. The picture was taken during the 38th Ordinary UEFA Congress at the Palace of Independence in Astana, Kazakhstan, where the UEFA President took the opportunity to present Alina Stetenco to the delegates. Alina Stetenco had recently provided key information that led to a Moldovan official being banned from football for life for attempting to manipulate the outcome of a match in the European Women's Under-17 Championship last August.

The 44-page magazine kicked off with a message from Pavel Cebanu, president of the

FMF, about all of the association's organisational achievements.

A total of 14 pages were dedicated to the 12th Ordinary FMF Congress, which included speeches by Mircea Sandu, a member of the UEFA Executive Committee, and Leonid Bujor, the Moldovan prime minister's advisor on education and sport.

The first issue also came with details of Moldova's football development strategy for 2014–20.

The magazine contained lots of information about the FMF's activities during the first half of 2014. In addition, it featured an interview with 23-year-old Moldovan international Artur Ioniță, who recently moved from FC Aarau in Switzerland to Italian Serie A club Hellas Verona FC. The magazine also contained interesting photos and information about FC Fulgerul Chișinău, Moldova's first football club, and plenty of other useful information.

● FMF press office



The cover of the first issue



Wonderful five-a-side disability football event

Over 50 clubs from all over the United Kingdom and Ireland recently descended on the Billy Neill Complex in Dundonald for the annual Coca-Cola Community Cup. Over two days of competition, some 200 competitive games took place across 11 pitches, producing a wonderful festival of disability football.

This five-a-side disability football event is aimed at disability football clubs and adult centres that cater for players with learning difficulties, physical disability and/or sensory impairment. Clubs are grouped together in four ability bands to ensure a level playing field, with a trophy at stake in each category.

Local club Foyle performed brilliantly, winning ability category 1 with a 4-0 victory over six-time champions Llandudno 1 from Wales.

The final of ability category 2 was a local affair, with Belfast Disability FC defeating



Foyle won the ability category 1 competition

Lisburn 2Gether on penalties after a high-scoring game. Guernsey 1 from the Channel Islands did well to finish in third spot, after winning the category at the 2013 event.

Down Special Olympics Club completed a hat-trick of victories for local clubs, winning ability category 3. Again, it was a tight affair,

requiring penalties to separate the local side from visitors Everton FC.

The winners of the final trophy were Llandudno from Wales, who added to their previous Community Cup triumphs by winning ability category 4 with victory over Guernsey DFC 2.

Alan Crooks, development manager for disability football at the Irish Football Association, was keen to praise the efforts of all competing teams: "It's great to see so many talented players from all over the UK and Ireland testing

themselves against teams of similar ability. The finals in particular were very impressive this year – ultra-competitive, but played in the right spirit. The competition is continuing to grow, and we hope it will continue to develop, becoming the premium disability football cup competition in the UK." ● Sueann Harrison



New training camp for young players

The first ever Summer Young Eagles Academy training camp – an innovative initiative for young players run by the Polish Football Federation (PZPN) – began on 29 June in Gniewino, with 80 boys born in 2003 attending that camp. A second camp for children born in 2002 began a week later. These talented young players were housed in the Hotel Mistral Sport, which the Spanish team used as its base camp during EURO 2012.

"As you can see, we have created the best possible conditions for these boys. We are running three training sessions a day, led by the coaches of Poland's national youth teams: Marcin Dorna (Under 21s), Rafał Janas (Under-19s), Robert Wójcik (Under-17s) and Bartłomiej Zalewski (Under-15s). Józef Młynarczyk and

Andrzej Dawidziuk are also conducting their own goalkeeping sessions. Everything has been carefully organised, as it is in the top academies," explained Magdalena Urbańska, head of the PZPN's grassroots department.

"We have taken the very bold step of inviting our most talented young players to attend a one-week camp. We did this in order to eventually increase the number of people playing professional football. The children who came to Gniewino underwent a series of tests – both physical and psychological. From now on, we will be able to monitor each of them individually. We will soon know whether the direction we are going in is the

right one," said Zbigniew Boniek, president of the PZPN.

● Jakub Kwiatkowski



The first summer academy training camp

A memorable day

A recent friendly international between the Republic of Ireland and Turkey will live long in the memory for Ireland's amputee football team, as it gave them the chance to play an exhibition match at the Dublin Arena. This was an incredibly proud day for everyone at the Irish Amputee Football Association, as the team were given the opportunity to showcase both their sport and their talent. It was a very special and somewhat emotional occasion for all involved.

The crowd were left spellbound by the skill and speed of these incredible athletes, who play

on crutches. The Irish amputee team scored three exceptional goals against non-disabled opposition, winning 3-0, on a day that will live long in the memories of everyone who was present.

The Irish Amputee Football Association was established in April 2011 as part of the Football Association of Ireland's Football for All programme. Since then, it has grown significantly, going from strength to strength. The squad is currently preparing for the Amputee World Cup, which takes place in Mexico in November. The players are highly committed, training five days a week and attending monthly weekend training camps at the University of Limerick. This training is



Ireland's amputee football team

overseen by their manager, Christy McElligott, the team's coach, Kevin Brady, and their high performance coach, Alan Heary, who has added an extra degree of professionalism to the set-up. Any niggles or injuries are attended to by the team's physiotherapist, Dave Cushen.

To find out more about amputee football, visit www.irishamputeefootballassociation.com or find them on Facebook and Twitter (@irishampfootball).

● **Stephen Finn**

New statutes

Răzvan Burleanu, president of the Romanian Football Federation (FRF), has decided, together with his colleagues in the FRF's new senior management team, to amend both the FRF's statutes and its regulations.

The structure and content of the new statutes are designed to meet the particular demands of a modern, performance-oriented football organisation, in full accordance with UEFA and FIFA regulations. The statutes were approved by an extraordinary general assembly on 28 June.

The new statutes contain – in a single document based on suggestions made by the FRF's administration and affiliated members – major norms and standards relating to the FRF's activities and the democratic manner in which decisions are to be made by the FRF's governing bodies and committees. Thus, we have achieved one of our key objectives: transforming the FRF's statutes into a constitution for Romanian football – clarifying and simplifying matters and including all fundamental norms and standards governing football-related activities.

A preamble has been added to the statutes, specifying that *"the FRF shares and protects, through its scope and objectives, UEFA's 11 key values"*. It then lists those values. Not only are Romanian football and its administration now explicitly governed by those European values, but the new statutes have also introduced concepts such as subsidiarity, leadership, good governance, grassroots football, youth protection and education, integrity and the European sports model into the association's official vocabulary.

A special section of the statutes is dedicated to social responsibility, which the FRF's new senior management team regards as a key value. For the first time ever, the FRF's scope and objectives include the following: fighting violence and racism; promoting football at all levels (grassroots); further training for young sportsmen and the establishment of professional development programmes to facilitate their integration into the labour market at the end of their football careers; developing research programmes for football and sport in general; and organising social responsibility, active citizenship and social inclusion-related activities.

There are also three very important new provisions concerning the FRF's executive committee: 1) the FRF's technical director is to become a full member, in order to establish links between the FRF's executive body and

the development programme for Romania's national teams; 2) a woman designated by the women's football committee will, for the first time in the FRF's history, attend executive committee meetings as a guest, with the aim of involving more of the FRF's stakeholders; and 3) a person designated by the national team

New administrators' course

The first ever administrators' training course began in April, with the opening session – on the history of football – conducted by Giorgio Crescentini, president of the San Marino Football Federation (FSGC).

Given the changing nature of UEFA and FIFA regulations and the need to stay on top of corporate, administrative, legal and organisational issues in order to properly comply with domestic and international rules, the FSGC's executive committee has developed a course designed to prepare the administrators of its member clubs for their relations with other European clubs.

During approximately 80 hours of lesson time, San Marino's leading speakers in their fields delivered to the 14 course participants a programme covering a comprehensive range of relevant topics and issues, including the organisation of the National Olympic Committee, the International Olympic Committee, FIFA and UEFA; anti-money-laundering, tax and administrative legislation; sporting integrity and ethics; relations with the refereeing bodies; group psychology; media relations and communications; sports science and nutrition; regulations and statutes; application forms; and the use of computer programs.

A lot of time was dedicated to corporate, legal and administrative organisation, with a particular focus on the techniques and models required to effectively manage a group and individual employees.

In other news, the FSGC's training department held refresher sessions for all coaches with UEFA B and C licences in May and June.

On 22 and 29 May, UEFA Pro licence coaches Franco Varrella and Elvio Selighini held two practical refresher sessions entitled 'Possession: Turning Players into Playmakers' and 'Training: How to Improve Core Technical Skills and

fan club will also attend executive committee meetings as a guest (and without any voting rights), for the same reasons.

In another very important change, FRF presidents will now be limited to a maximum of three terms in office, and candidates for that position must not be older than 65.

● **Paul Zaharia**



Learning on the pitch

Individual and Team Tactics'. Around 80 coaches attended each session. With the help of one of the FSGC's youth teams, Mr Varrella and Mr Selighini presented their methods, concepts and drills with professionalism and enthusiasm. At the end of each practical session, the coaches made full use of the opportunity to quiz the teachers.

The training department also arranged three refresher sessions specifically for coaches of grassroots youth football clubs in San Marino, with a view to improving knowledge and expertise levels in a part of the game that is crucial to each club and federation. The federation was able to call on the services of two youth coaching specialists, Fabio Lepri and Enrico Battisti, to run the sessions. On 19 May, Fabio Lepri held a theory-based session entitled 'Communication between Coaches and Junior Footballers', while on 27 May, he conducted a practical session featuring tactical drills entitled 'Principles of Tactical Formation'.

On 5 June, Enrico Battisti held a practical session at Montecchio entitled 'Integrated Training at Grassroots Level'.

All three sessions were greatly appreciated by the coaches, who participated actively and were introduced to a range of innovative programmes, methods and practical drills.

● **Emilio Cecchini**



A first ever tournament win

Scotland's women's Under-19 team made history this summer in the final round of the European Women's Under-19 Championship in Norway, becoming the first Scotland team ever to win a game at a major women's tournament. A 2-0 victory in their opening match against Belgium in Strommen was a dream start to the tournament for Gareth Evans' side. First-half goals by Arsenal Ladies FC's Caroline Weir and Durham Women FC's Zoe Ness secured the famous victory.

Unfortunately, the team could not quite build on their successful opening match. A defiant second-half comeback against the eventual winners of the championship, the Netherlands, was not enough to salvage a point, as the Dutch held on for a 3-2 victory in Jessheim. A first-half finishing master class by FC Bayern München's Vivienne Miedema and an unfortunate own goal stunned Gareth Evans' side as the Dutch raced into a three-goal lead after just 25 minutes. An own goal in Scotland's favour and a calm finish by substitute Carolina



Scotland's women's U19s celebrate Caroline Weir's goal against Belgium

Richardson in the second half gave the Scots hope of a miraculous fightback, but the equalising third goal proved to be elusive.

The team bowed out of the tournament after the final round of fixtures in the group stage, losing 5-0 to the host nation in Sarpsborg. Overall, however, the qualifying campaign

and the final tournament were a very positive experience. The team won all six of their qualifying matches and scored 38 goals in the process – 13 more than any other country. With 10 of their 18 players also eligible for the 2014/15 campaign, Scotland will be hoping that this is just the beginning.

● David Childs



Action to tackle match-fixing

Unfortunately, match-fixing is currently a serious problem in football in general, and it has recently become an issue in Switzerland as well. Imagine the following situation: a full-back at a lower-division club earns CHF 1,500 a month, and with only a few games of the season remaining, with his team safe from relegation, but with no chance of promotion, he is offered CHF 50,000 to give away a penalty. In that situation, the temptation to accept such an immoral offer will of course be quite considerable.

The Swiss Football Association has taken steps to prevent such incidents from occurring,

and this autumn a new programme will be launched on its website, which will be compulsory for all referees, coaches and players in the Swiss Football League. *"The programme will begin in the autumn. Presentations will be given by experts, and it will be mandatory for all referees and coaches,"* says Robert Breiter, head of legal affairs at the Swiss Football Association. *"As part of the annual licensing procedure, clubs will also have to confirm that all players have been made fully aware of the programme,"* he says.

With these pre-emptive measures, the Swiss Football Association has again demonstrated



Robert Breiter

that it is taking this issue very seriously and seeking to forestall any problems that might arise. The aim is to prevent incidents such as that seen in Lugano last year (when four players were approached but fortunately did the right thing and informed their club) from occurring in the first place.

Robert Breiter also hopes that Switzerland's new gambling law will have an effect: *"We are pleased that match-fixing is to become a criminal offence, which is not the case at the moment."*

● Pierre Benoit



UEFA trophies tour Wales

Excitement was high in Wales ahead of the UEFA Super Cup match between Real Madrid CF and Sevilla FC at Cardiff City Stadium on 12 August.

As part of the build-up, the Football Association of Wales (FAW) had an unprecedented opportunity to take UEFA's three major club trophies – the UEFA Champions League trophy, the UEFA Europa League trophy and the UEFA Super Cup – on a tour around Wales.

The tour began at the FAW's technical centre – Dragon Park – in Newport on 1 August, before heading north to Wrexham on 2 and 3 August, followed by Snowdonia and Bangor (4 and 5 August), Aberystwyth (6 and 7 August) and Llanelli (8 and 9 August), before returning to Cardiff, ready for the game on 12 August. Thousands of fans had their

photographs taken alongside the trophies, and children had the chance to participate in football fun days.



During the UEFA Super Cup's stay in Wales, it travelled all over the country, allowing fans of all ages to see it. It even had its own Facebook page – entitled "Where in Wales is the Super Cup trophy?" – where it was photographed in various locations around the principality.

● Ceri Stennett

The UEFA Champions League, UEFA Super Cup and UEFA Europa League trophies

BIRTHDAYS

Gerhard Aigner (Germany, 1 September)
 José Guilherme Aguiar (Portugal, 1 September)
Manuel Diaz Vega (Spain, 1 September) 60th
 João Morais (Portugal, 1 September)
 Anatoly Vorobyev (Russia, 2 September)
 Marco Brunelli (Italy, 2 September)
 Gérard Houllier (France, 3 September)
David Elleray (England, 3 September) 60th
 Rudolf Bata (Czech Republic, 4 September)
 Victor Mintoff (Malta, 4 September)
 Grigoriy Surkis (Ukraine, 4 September)
 Barry Taylor (England, 5 September)
 Eija Vähälä (Finland, 6 September)
 Bernd Stöber (Germany, 6 September)
 Shmuel Shteif (Israel, 6 September)
 György Mezey (Hungary, 7 September)
 Antonio Laranjo (Portugal, 7 September)
 Werner Helsen (Belgium, 7 September)
 Vignir Már Thormóðsson (Iceland, 7 September)
 Adrian Titcombe (England, 8 September)
 Pierre Rochongar (France, 9 September)
Kostadin Gerginov (Bulgaria, 9 September) 60th
Geir Thorsteinsson (Iceland, 9 September) 50th
 Ilonka Milanova Djaleva (Bulgaria, 9 September)
 Ioannis Tsachilidis (Greece, 11 September)
 Katarzyna Wierzbowska (Poland, 11 September)
 Tomas Karpavičius (Lithuania, 11 September)
 Talal Darawshi (Israel, 12 September)
 Tanya Gravina (Malta, 12 September)
 Stanisław Speczik (Poland, 13 September)
 Anatoliy Konkov (Ukraine, 13 September)
 Jon Skjervold (Norway, 13 September)
 Ingrid Jonsson (Sweden, 13 September)

Frank Wormuth (Germany, 13 September)
Philippe Prudhon (France, 13 September) 50th
 Ivan Gazidis (England, 13 September)
Miguel Liétard Fernández-Palacios (Spain, 13 September) 30th
 Javid Garayev (Azerbaijan, 14 September)
 Kim Robin Haugen (Norway, 14 September)
 Eugeniusz Nowak (Poland, 15 September)
 Dejan Savićević (Montenegro, 15 September)
 Sokol Jareci (Albania, 15 September)
 Tony Asumaa (Finland, 15 September)
 Revaz Arveladze (Georgia, 15 September)
 Paddy McCaul (Republic of Ireland, 16 September)
 Antonis Petrou (Cyprus, 16 September)
 Kelly Simmons (England, 16 September)
 Antoine De Pandis (France, 17 September)
 Antero Silva Resende (Portugal, 18 September)
 Senes Erzik (Turkey, 18 September)
 Roberto Rosetti (Italy, 18 September)
 Miroslava Migalova (Slovakia, 18 September)
 Stefano Farina (Italy, 19 September)
Gaioz Darsadze (Georgia, 19 September) 50th
 John Fleming (Scotland, 20 September)
 Miloš Marković (Serbia, 20 September)
 Helena Herrero González (Spain, 21 September)
 Viktor Paradrnikov (Ukraine, 21 September)
 Nenad Dikić (Serbia, 21 September)
 Stefan Weber (Germany, 21 September)
 Vladislav Khodeev (Russia, 21 September)
 Cornelis de Bruin (Netherlands, 22 September)
Vasile Avram (Romania, 22 September) 60th
 Goetz Eilers (Germany, 23 September)
Umberto Lago (Italy, 23 September) 50th
 Giangiorgio Spiess (Switzerland, 24 September)
 Eugen Strigel (Germany, 24 September)

Ionel Piscanu (Romania, 24 September)
 Matteo Framaglia (Italy, 24 September)
 Magdalena Urbanska (Poland, 24 September)
 Dr Mogens Kreutzfeldt (Denmark, 25 September)
 Paul Krähenbühl (Switzerland, 25 September)
 Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (Germany, 25 September)
 Christine Frai (Germany, 25 September)
 Rotem Kamer (Israel, 25 September)
 Stephen Lodge (England, 26 September)
 Camelia Nicolae (Romania, 26 September)
 Dzmitry Kryshchanovich (Belarus, 26 September)
 Ales Zavrl (Slovenia, 26 September)
 Sławomir Stempniewski (Poland, 26 September)
 Jens Kleinefeld (Germany, 27 September)
 Mariano Delogu (Italy, 28 September)
 Michael van Praag (Netherlands, 28 September)
 Karel Bohunek (Czech Republic, 28 September)
 Eric Romain (Belgium, 28 September)
 Kjetil P. Siem (Norway, 29 September)
 Dariusz Paweł Dziekanowski (Poland, 30 September)
 Cristina-Daniela Uluc (Romania, 30 September)

NOTICES

- On 26 July, Tony Fitzgerald succeeded Paddy McCaul as president of the Football Association of Ireland.
- On 30 July, Bjorn Vassallo took over as general secretary of the Malta Football Association.
- On 31 July, Ofer Eini succeeded Avraham Luzon (UEFA Executive Committee member) as president of the Israel Football Association.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Meetings

1 September, Nyon
 Medical Committee

2 September, Nyon
 Women's Football Committee

3/4 September, Nyon
 Elite Club Coaches Forum

10/11 September, Rome
 UEFA Respect Diversity Conference

10–12 September, Warsaw
 13th UEFA–EU Stadium and Security Conference

12 September, Nyon
 2013–15 European Under-21 Championship: draw for the play-offs

15 September, St Petersburg
 Development and Technical Assistance Committee

15–17 September, St Petersburg
 FIFA–UEFA Conference for National Coaches and Technical Directors

18 September, Nyon
 Finance Committee

18/19 September, Nyon
 Executive Committee

19 September, Geneva

UEFA EURO 2020 hosts announcement ceremony

19 September, Nyon

2015 FIFA Women's World Cup: draw for the play-offs in the European qualifying competition

26 September, Nyon

2015–16 European Futsal Championship: draws for the preliminary and main rounds

Competitions

7–9 September

UEFA EURO 2016: European Qualifiers (matchday 1)

16/17 September

2014/15 UEFA Champions League: group matches (matchday 1)

18 September 2014

2014/15 UEFA Europa League: group matches (matchday 1)

30 September/1 October

2014/15 UEFA Champions League: group matches (matchday 2)

30 September–5 October

2014/15 UEFA Futsal Cup: main round

OBITUARIES

Professor **Stewart Hillis** (Scotland), second vice-chairman of the UEFA Medical Committee, passed away on 21 July at the age of 70. He was a member of the UEFA Medical Committee from 1986 to 1992, becoming vice-president in 1992.

David Taylor (Scotland), former UEFA General Secretary, passed away on 24 June at the age of 60.

Having previously been a member of the UEFA Control and Disciplinary Body from 2002 to 2007, he took up office as UEFA General Secretary on 1 June 2007. In October 2009 he became CEO of UEFA Events SA, then at the end of 2012 became UEFA's advisor on corporate business affairs, representing UEFA on the boards of its commercial partners, TEAM Marketing and CAA Eleven.





NO TO RACISM

