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Spanish football takes pride of place



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Spain's collection of silverware continues to grow, the latest additions to their trophy cabinet being the European U19 and U21 trophies (page 5), while the Women's U17 trophy remains on display for another season (page 10).



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The participating clubs are understandably the main beneficiaries of UEFA Champions League revenue. For the 2010/11 season, they shared in more than €750 million.



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2010/11 UEFA competition results: containing the results of all matches in last season's UEFA competitions.

Technical report: European Women's Under-19 Championship: analysing the final round that took place in Italy.

Cover

Spanish football continues to excel on the international scene and has added three new European titles to its impressive collection, in the latest Under-21 (photo), Under-19 and Women's Under-17 championships. Not only that but the three players shortlisted for the new UEFA Best Player in Europe award play for Spanish clubs.

Photo: Getty Images

A necessary measure

Can passion ever rhyme with reason? In football, it is no easy task to make the two go hand in hand, given the comprehensive losses that some clubs have got into the bad habit of accumulating over the seasons. We have often insisted that football, far from being a mere economic activity, is, above all, a sport and a game, and that its popularity stems from the fact that it stirs passions. However, this undeniable truth must not stand in the way of reason and mask the harsh reality that if it continues along this path, professional football will run headlong into bankruptcy, and its collapse will not be without repercussions at grassroots level, tarnishing its image, if nothing else.

This should not be seen as a call for austerity and a return to the budgets of old. Football moves impressive amounts of money, and that is a good thing. Nor is it a question of seeking a utopian distribution of wealth. There have always been clubs that are richer than others and there doubtless always will be. All we want is for clubs – richer and poorer alike – to spend no more than they earn and to balance their books, this being the only sure way for them to survive.

To this end, with the unanimous support of all the stakeholders, and with a view to helping the clubs, we have established financial fair play criteria, which we will start to apply strictly from this season. So aside from

the matches, which once again promise to attract a huge following, the 2011/12 season will draw attention for another, more particular reason, but one with far-reaching implications, as it is in the interests of the game as a whole if all the clubs play by the rules, comply with the financial fair play criteria and achieve a sustainable financial balance, making passion agree with reason.

I wish all the clubs, players, directors, referees and fans an exciting new season typified by fair play in all its forms.



Michel Platini
UEFA President



A great experience for everyone

The tenth European Under-19 Championship in Romania ended in identical fashion to four of the first nine editions of the competition with Spain holding the trophy aloft.



The triumph followed Spain's successes in 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2007 – the coach Ginés Meléndez playing a part in all but the first – and ensured the Iberian side kept the trophy permanently.

Three victories for the Czechs

The Czechs were in control of Group A from the outset, although they had to come from behind to beat hosts Romania (3-1) and the Republic of Ireland (2-1) respectively. A 1-0 matchday 3 victory against Greece ensured Jaroslav Hřebík's team progressed as group winners to the semi-finals, where they were joined by the Republic of Ireland, who secured their progress with a goalless draw against Romania.

Spain also reached the last four with something to spare despite a false start in Group B as their game with Belgium was abandoned due to adverse weather conditions. Meléndez's team were 4-1 winners when the teams met again a day later, the subsequent 4-0 defeat of Serbia – in which Álvaro Morata scored a hat-trick – wrapping up first place with a game to spare. A 1-1 draw against Belgium ensured Serbia joined the eventual champions in the last four, Turkey bowing out despite a 3-0 defeat of a much-changed Spain.

Contrasting fashions

The two group winners also came through their semi-finals, albeit in contrasting fashions. For the third game running, the Czechs found themselves in Mogo-

RESULTS

Group A

20.7	Romania – Czech Republic	1-3
20.7	Greece – Republic of Ireland	1-2
23.7	Czech Republic – Republic of Ireland	2-1
23.7	Romania – Greece	0-1
26.7	Republic of Ireland – Romania	0-0
26.7	Czech Republic – Greece	1-0

Group B

20.7	Serbia – Turkey	2-0
21.7	Spain – Belgium	4-1
23.7	Turkey – Belgium	1-1
23.7	Serbia – Spain	0-4
26.7	Belgium – Serbia	1-1
26.7	Turkey – Spain	3-0

Semi-finals

29.7	Czech Republic – Serbia	4-2
29.7	Spain – Republic of Ireland	5-0

Final

01.8	Czech Republic – Spain	2-3*
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* after extra time

soia and duly made themselves at home, taking a 3-0 lead before 20 minutes had elapsed. Djordje Despotovic's quickfire double brought Serbia back into the contest by the 28th minute, but Jiri Skalák sealed the result late on.

By contrast, Spain stormed into their sixth UEFA U19 final as a clinical attacking display proved too much for Ireland in Chişinău, Gerard Deulofeu and Pablo Sarabia scoring fine first-half goals. Juanmi added a third shortly after the restart, before top scorer Morata added a late double, the second a penalty, to take his tournament tally to six.

The final proved a tighter contest, the Czechs striking first seven minutes after half-time thanks to Ladislav Krejci's fierce low shot. Spain pressed hard for an equaliser and got their reward in the 85th minute thanks to Jon Aurtenetxe's opportunistic strike. Substitute Patrik Lácha restored the Czech lead in the 97th minute, but Paco Alcácer replied 11 minutes later and decided a gripping contest in Spain's favour in the 115th minute.

"The Czechs played well, but for most of the game we were much the better side," said the victorious coach, Meléndez. *"I'd like to point to our mental strength in twice fighting back from a goal down. It's a fifth U19 title for us and the coaches, the federation and its president are very proud."*

There was also plenty of praise for the hosts' efforts in staging the finals, Serbia's Dejan Govedarica summing up the general mood: *"The organisation has been at the highest level, from training pitches to the accommodation and the pitches. Romania has been a great experience for everyone."* ●



Spanish sun has heated the North



Spain claimed the glory, Switzerland the honour in defeat, yet they were not the only ones leaving Denmark with fond memories of the European Under-21 Championship.



Aarhus, venue for the 25 June final which Spain won 2-0 against Switzerland, was the hub for a tournament showcasing the bright young things of European football – and in graduation week for the city's students, Luis Milla's team took the honours.

That they prevailed was reward for their enterprising attacking football. Only a late England equaliser had stopped these heirs to the world and European champions winning all five of their matches in Denmark's Jutland peninsula. After that setback, Spain found the cutting edge to complement their possession play – five-goal Golden Boot award winner, Adrián López.

Third title

The Czech Republic and Ukraine were brushed aside before the Group B victors required an 89th-minute Adrián equaliser against Belarus in a Viborg semi-final which was drifting away from them. A 3-1 extra-time triumph followed. Spain's extra know-how then enabled them to negotiate first-time finalists Switzerland and claim the country's third U21 title from five final attempts.

According to Milla, the Swiss were the «best team» the Spain coach had seen in the eight-strong field. They certainly stood out in registering the sole 100% record leading up to the Aarhus Stadion final: Pierluigi Tami's side proceeded from an opening win against hosts Denmark in Aalborg to defeat Iceland and Belarus and wrap up Group A. The Czechs were downed by a solitary Admir Mehmedi strike towards the end of overtime in the Herning semi-final.

Nonetheless, goalkeeper Yann Sommer's unbeaten streak – an unprecedented run for this tournament – was ended by Ander Herrera's first-half header and an extravagant Thiago Alcántara free-kick. Spain, with 2010 FIFA World Cup winners Javi Martínez and Juan Mata again playing central roles, proved irresistible even for a confident Swiss ensemble.

Olympic qualification

There were other highlights too. With no side qualified for the semi-finals from either group going into the

third and final matchday, high drama ensued in topsy-turvy matches between England and the Czech Republic (1-2), and Iceland and Denmark (3-1). That was the Icelanders' first U21 victory over their Nordic rivals but still left them a goal short of the semi-finals: they and the Danes were edged out by Belarus in a three-way head-to-head tie.

Home fires had burned brightly but briefly following Nicolai Jørgensen's superb clincher against Belarus, the team that later gained the consolatory Olympic spot – alongside the two finalists – by beating the Czechs 1-0 in a play-off. ●

RESULTS

Group A

11.6	Belarus – Iceland	2-0
11.6	Denmark – Switzerland	0-1
14.6	Switzerland – Iceland	2-0
14.6	Denmark – Belarus	2-1
18.6	Iceland – Denmark	3-1
18.6	Switzerland – Belarus	3-0

Group B

12.6	Czech Republic – Ukraine	2-1
12.6	Spain – England	1-1
15.6	Czech Republic – Spain	0-2
15.6	Ukraine – England	0-0
19.6	England – Czech Republic	1-2
19.6	Ukraine – Spain	0-3

Semi-finals

22.6	Belarus – Spain	1-3*
22.6	Switzerland – Czech Republic	1-0*

Match for the 3rd place

25.6	Czech Republic – Belarus	0-1
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Final

25.6	Switzerland – Spain	0-2
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* after extra time

Spanish football takes the honours again



Group matches					Knockout stage				
Clubs	Participation bonus	Match bonus	Performance bonus	Market pool	Round of 16	Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Final	TOTAL (EUR)
Group A									
Tottenham Hotspur FC	3 900 000	3 300 000	3 200 000	14 433 000	3 000 000	3 300 000	–	–	31 133 000
FC Twente	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 000 000	4 232 000	–	–	–	–	13 432 000
FC Internazionale Milano	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 800 000	21 682 000	3 000 000	3 300 000	–	–	37 982 000
SV Werder Bremen	3 900 000	3 300 000	1 600 000	8 656 000	–	–	–	–	17 456 000
Group B									
Hapoel Tel-Aviv FC	3 900 000	3 300 000	1 600 000	1 304 000	–	–	–	–	10 104 000
Olympique Lyonnais	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 800 000	9 656 000	3 000 000	–	–	–	22 656 000
FC Schalke 04	3 900 000	3 300 000	3 600 000	18 450 000	3 000 000	3 300 000	4 200 000	–	39 750 000
SL Benfica	3 900 000	3 300 000	1 600 000	3 034 000	–	–	–	–	11 834 000
Group C									
Valencia CF	3 900 000	3 300 000	3 200 000	10 656 000	3 000 000	–	–	–	24 056 000
Manchester United FC	3 900 000	3 300 000	4 000 000	25 897 000	3 000 000	3 300 000	4 200 000	5 600 000	53 197 000
Rangers FC	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 000 000	9 326 000	–	–	–	–	18 526 000
Bursaspor	3 900 000	3 300 000	400 000	12 448 000	–	–	–	–	20 048 000
Group D									
FC Rubin Kazan	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 000 000	4 546 000	–	–	–	–	13 746 000
FC Barcelona	3 900 000	3 300 000	4 000 000	20 325 000	3 000 000	3 300 000	4 200 000	9 000 000	51 025 000
Panathinaikos FC	3 900 000	3 300 000	800 000	14 370 000	–	–	–	–	22 370 000
FC København	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 800 000	8 248 000	3 000 000	–	–	–	21 248 000
Group E									
FC Basel 1893	3 900 000	3 300 000	1 600 000	2 194 000	–	–	–	–	10 994 000
FC Bayern München	3 900 000	3 300 000	4 000 000	18 362 000	3 000 000	–	–	–	32 562 000
AS Roma	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 800 000	17 087 000	3 000 000	–	–	–	30 087 000
CFR 1907 Cluj	3 900 000	3 300 000	1 200 000	10 012 000	–	–	–	–	18 412 000
Group F									
Chelsea FC	3 900 000	3 300 000	4 000 000	27 023 000	3 000 000	3 300 000	–	–	44 523 000
Olympique de Marseille	3 900 000	3 300 000	3 200 000	11 685 000	3 000 000	–	–	–	25 085 000
FC Spartak Moskva	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 400 000	4 113 000	–	–	–	–	13 713 000
MŠK Žilina	3 900 000	3 300 000	–	212 000	–	–	–	–	7 412 000
Group G									
AJ Auxerre	3 900 000	3 300 000	800 000	5 720 000	–	–	–	–	13 720 000
Real Madrid CF	3 900 000	3 300 000	4 400 000	17 188 000	3 000 000	3 300 000	4 200 000	–	39 288 000
AFC Ajax	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 000 000	3 128 000	–	–	–	–	12 328 000
AC Milan	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 400 000	13 190 000	3 000 000	–	–	–	25 790 000
Group H									
FK Partizan	3 900 000	3 300 000	–	1 310 000	–	–	–	–	8 510 000
Arsenal FC	3 900 000	3 300 000	3 200 000	16 583 000	3 000 000	–	–	–	29 983 000
SC Braga	3 900 000	3 300 000	2 400 000	2 242 000	–	–	–	–	11 842 000
FC Shakhtar Donetsk	3 900 000	3 300 000	4 000 000	3 788 000	3 000 000	3 300 000	–	–	21 288 000
TOTAL	124 800 000	105 600 000	76 800 000	341 100 000	48 000 000	26 400 000	16 800 000	14 600 000	754 100 000

Any surplus in the amounts available will be distributed at a later date (not reflected in these figures).

Clubs receive over €750 million



The 2010/11 UEFA Champions League was the second in a three-year cycle. The revenues and by extension the amounts distributed were therefore similar to the previous season, although the clubs did increase their share to break the €750m barrier.

As in previous years, the total revenues were shared out among the 32 participating clubs based, first, on their progress and results in the competition and, second, on the commercial value of their domestic markets.

The fixed participation and results-based payments were as follows:

- Just for being in the group stage, each club received €3.9m (compared with €3.8 last year), followed by €550,000 for each group match they played, or €3.3 for the whole group stage, giving them each a total of €7.2m in participation bonuses.
- In addition, each club had the possibility of netting up to €4.8m in group stage performance bonuses (€800,000 for a win; €400,000 for a draw). Real Madrid CF took the most from this pot, with a near-maximum €4.4m.
- A place in the round of 16 was worth €3m, in the quarter-finals €3.3m and in the semi-finals €4.2m.
- The overall winners, FC Barcelona, received an additional €9m, bringing their fixed sum bonuses to €30.7m (out of a maximum €31.5m). Manchester United FC, the runners-up, received a final match bonus of €5.6m.

The second payments category, the market pool, depends primarily on the value of the clubs' domestic markets. If an association is represented by more than one club, however, the clubs' shares are calculated, first, on the basis of their position in the previous season's domestic championship and, second, on the basis of the number of matches they play in the competition (group stage onwards). With €27.023m, Chelsea FC received the largest market pool share of all the clubs in the 2010/11 UEFA Champions League.

In addition, the clubs all keep their own gate receipts.

Solidarity payments

Some Champions League revenue also went to the clubs that took part in the Champions League or Europa League qualifiers, by way of solidarity payments.

In the Champions League:

- Each domestic champion that was knocked out before the group stage received €200,000;
- Participation in the qualifiers was worth €130,000 per round, so up to €390,000 in total, but only clubs eliminated in qualifying received these solidarity payments. Meanwhile, the winners in the third qualifying round benefited from the €2.1m fixed sum paid to all 20 clubs in the play-offs. For the winners of the play-offs, this bonus was in addition to the amounts listed in the table (left), while the losers crossed over into the Europa League and therefore joined its financial distribution scheme. ●

Solidarity payments to national associations for the clubs involved in the 2010-11 UEFA club competition qualifying rounds

Associations	Amounts (EUR)
ALBANIA	690 000
ANDORRA	600 000
ARMENIA	600 000
AUSTRIA	960 000
AZERBAIJAN	870 000
BELARUS	690 000
BELGIUM	1 270 000
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	870 000
BULGARIA	910 000
CROATIA	820 000
CYPRUS	1 270 000
CZECH REPUBLIC	690 000
DENMARK	720 000
ENGLAND	180 000
ESTONIA	600 000
FAROE ISLANDS	600 000
FINLAND	1 180 000
FYR MACEDONIA	870 000
FRANCE	90 000
GEORGIA	960 000
GERMANY	90 000
GREECE	400 000
HUNGARY	1 000 000
ICELAND	690 000
ISRAEL	540 000
ITALY	90 000
KAZAKHSTAN	820 000
LATVIA	600 000
LIECHTENSTEIN	90 000
LITHUANIA	690 000
LUXEMBOURG	600 000
MALTA	640 000
MOLDOVA	780 000
MONTENEGRO	910 000
NETHERLANDS	360 000
NORTHERN IRELAND	780 000
NORWAY	690 000
POLAND	1 000 000
PORTUGAL	360 000
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND	780 000
ROMANIA	670 000
RUSSIA	270 000
SAN MARINO	510 000
SCOTLAND	670 000
SERBIA	450 000
SLOVAKIA	360 000
SLOVENIA	780 000
SPAIN	—
SWEDEN	1 360 000
SWITZERLAND	360 000
TURKEY	670 000
UKRAINE	450 000
WALES	910 000
TOTAL	34 810 000



Higher payouts for the clubs

In its second season, the revenues generated by the UEFA Europa League have enabled UEFA to distribute a little over 10% more to the clubs than last year. Between them, those involved in the 2010/11 competition have received over €150 million.

The principles applied to the redistribution of these revenues, generated by the centralised sale of commercial rights, are the same as in the UEFA Champions League. In other words, the amount paid out to each club is formed of fixed sums and a variable amount that depends on the commercial value of their domestic market.

For the 2010/11 season, the fixed sums were as follows:

- A participation bonus of €640,000 for each of the 48 clubs in the group stage (€40,000 more per club than in 2009/10).
- A match bonus of €60,000 for each group match, i.e. €360,000 per club in the group stage, or €1m including the participation bonus (compared with €900,000 last season).
- €140,000 for a win and €70,000 for a draw in the group stage (FC Zenit St Petersburg pocketed the maximum €840,000).
- €200,000 for each club that qualified for the round of 32.
- €300,000 for each club that then made it into the round of 16.
- €400,000 for each quarter-finalist club.
- €700,000 each for the semi-finalists.
- €3m for the winners (FC Porto) and €2m for the runners-up (SC Braga).

As regards the variable market pool shares, the €60m pot was divided into two halves:

- €30m was shared out among all the national associations represented in the group stage, their shares depending on the value of their domestic market. In addition, associations with more than one representative had their shares subdivided so that the national cup winners were given more and the other clubs all received the same.
- The remaining €30m was divided into six pots of different sizes, each representing a different round in the competition from the group stage to the final. Each pot was then divided by the number of teams in the corresponding round, with each team's share once again depending on the value of their national market. However, in this case where an association had more than one representative, each of the clubs received an equal cut.

As in the Champions League, the clubs also keep all their gate receipts.

Solidarity payments for the qualifying rounds

All the clubs that played in the UEFA Europa League qualifiers received solidarity payments of €90,000 per round – i.e. up to €270,000 – whether they made it through to the group stage or not.

In addition, €90,000 was given to each club knocked out in the play-offs. ●

Group stage					Knockout rounds					
Clubs	Participation bonus	Match bonus	Performance bonus	Market pool	Round of 32	Round of 16	Quarter-finals	Semi-finals	Final	TOTAL (EUR)
Group A										
KKS Lech Poznan	640 000	360 000	560 000	1 179 081	200 000	–	–	–	–	2 939 081
FC Salzburg	640 000	360 000	140 000	51 602	–	–	–	–	–	1 191 602
Manchester City FC	640 000	360 000	560 000	4 071 224	200 000	300 000	–	–	–	6 131 224
Juventus	640 000	360 000	420 000	410 090	–	–	–	–	–	1 830 090
Group B										
Rosenborg BK	640 000	360 000	140 000	281 311	–	–	–	–	–	1 421 311
Aris Thessalonique FC	640 000	360 000	490 000	1 205 619	200 000	–	–	–	–	2 895 619
Club Atlético de Madrid	640 000	360 000	420 000	1 515 759	–	–	–	–	–	2 935 759
Bayer 04 Leverkusen	640 000	360 000	630 000	5 292 203	200 000	300 000	–	–	–	7 422 203
Group C										
KAA Gent	640 000	360 000	350 000	179 844	–	–	–	–	–	1 529 844
LOSC Lille Métropole	640 000	360 000	420 000	930 048	200 000	–	–	–	–	2 550 048
Sporting Clube de Port.	640 000	360 000	560 000	382 962	200 000	–	–	–	–	2 142 962
PFC Levski Sofia	640 000	360 000	350 000	121 680	–	–	–	–	–	1 471 680
Group D										
PAOK FC	640 000	360 000	560 000	1 205 619	200 000	–	–	–	–	2 965 619
NK Dinamo Zagreb	640 000	360 000	350 000	55 078	–	–	–	–	–	1 405 078
Villarreal CF	640 000	360 000	560 000	5 888 112	200 000	300 000	400 000	700 000	–	9 048 112
Club Brugge KV	640 000	360 000	210 000	108 844	–	–	–	–	–	1 318 844
Group E										
FC BATE Borisov	640 000	360 000	490 000	23 982	200 000	–	–	–	–	1 713 982
AZ Alkmaar	640 000	360 000	350 000	271 877	–	–	–	–	–	1 621 877
FC Sheriff	640 000	360 000	280 000	18 111	–	–	–	–	–	1 298 111
FC Dynamo Kyiv	640 000	360 000	560 000	299 065	200 000	300 000	400 000	–	–	2 759 065
Group F										
PFC CSKA Moskva	640 000	360 000	770 000	1 253 253	200 000	300 000	–	–	–	3 523 253
AC Sparta Praha	640 000	360 000	490 000	144 012	200 000	–	–	–	–	1 834 012
US Città di Palermo	640 000	360 000	350 000	410 090	–	–	–	–	–	1 760 090
FC Lausanne-Sport	640 000	360 000	70 000	44 215	–	–	–	–	–	1 114 215
Group G										
HNK Hajduk Split	640 000	360 000	140 000	85 078	–	–	–	–	–	1 225 078
RSC Anderlecht	640 000	360 000	350 000	169 893	200 000	–	–	–	–	1 719 893
Zenit St Petersburg	640 000	360 000	840 000	1 801 253	200 000	300 000	–	–	–	4 141 253
AEK Athens FC	640 000	360 000	350 000	979 872	–	–	–	–	–	2 329 872
Group H										
Odense BK	640 000	360 000	210 000	434 117	–	–	–	–	–	1 644 117
VfB Stuttgart	640 000	360 000	700 000	3 693 831	200 000	–	–	–	–	5 593 831
BSC Young Boys	640 000	360 000	420 000	51 321	200 000	–	–	–	–	1 671 321
Getafe CF	640 000	360 000	350 000	841 759	–	–	–	–	–	2 191 759
Group I										
UC Sampdoria	640 000	360 000	280 000	410 090	–	–	–	–	–	1 690 090
Debreceni VSC	640 000	360 000	140 000	172 282	–	–	–	–	–	1 312 282
FC Metalist Kharkiv	640 000	360 000	560 000	125 760	200 000	–	–	–	–	1 885 760
PSV Eindhoven	640 000	360 000	700 000	521 660	200 000	300 000	400 000	–	–	3 121 660
Group J										
Paris Saint-Germain FC	640 000	360 000	630 000	1 706 243	200 000	300 000	–	–	–	3 836 243
FC Karpaty Lviv	640 000	360 000	70 000	102 204	–	–	–	–	–	1 172 204
Borussia Dortmund	640 000	360 000	490 000	3 002 868	–	–	–	–	–	4 492 868
Sevilla FC	640 000	360 000	490 000	1 877 935	200 000	–	–	–	–	3 567 935
Group K										
FC Steaua Bucuresti	640 000	360 000	350 000	2 235 838	–	–	–	–	–	3 585 838
SSC Napoli	640 000	360 000	420 000	661 945	200 000	–	–	–	–	2 281 945
FC Utrecht	640 000	360 000	350 000	271 877	–	–	–	–	–	1 621 877
Liverpool FC	640 000	360 000	560 000	4 071 224	200 000	300 000	–	–	–	6 131 224
Group L										
SK Rapid Wien	640 000	360 000	140 000	51 602	–	–	–	–	–	1 191 602
Besiktas JK	640 000	360 000	630 000	6 633 083	200 000	–	–	–	–	8 463 083
PFC CSKA Sofia	640 000	360 000	140 000	121 680	–	–	–	–	–	1 261 680
FC Porto	640 000	360 000	770 000	1 467 046	200 000	300 000	400 000	700 000	3 000 000	7 837 046
Clubs from the UEFA Champions League										
Rangers FC				224 972	200 000	300 000	–	–	–	724 972
SL Benfica				328 191	200 000	300 000	400 000	700 000	–	1 928 191
AFC Ajax				90 214	200 000	300 000	–	–	–	590 214
SC Braga				928 191	200 000	300 000	400 000	700 000	2 000 000	4 528 191
FC Basel 1893				7 100	200 000	–	–	–	–	207 100
FC Spartak Moskva				1 240 256	200 000	300 000	400 000	–	–	2 140 256
FC Rubin Kazan				98 151	200 000	–	–	–	–	298 151
FC Twente				248 783	200 000	300 000	400 000	–	–	1 148 783
TOTAL	30 720 000	17 280 000	20 160 000	60 000 000	6 400 000	4 800 000	3 200 000	2 800 000	5 000 000	150 360 000

Any surplus in the amounts available will be distributed at a later date (not reflected in these figures).

Spain retain their crown

Three old rivals and a promising newcomer graced the final round of the fourth European Women's Under-17 Championship in Nyon between 28 and 31 July. Continuing the country's purple patch of success, Spain emerged victorious for the second consecutive year in a tournament that provided its fair share of drama.



The field for the final round comprised a trio of well-known names. Twice-winners Germany were back in contention, Spain were eager to retain their European crown, and France, finalists in 2008 and semi-finalists in 2009, yearned to conquer a first trophy at this level. Iceland were the debutants, arriving in Switzerland in the wake of an outstanding qualifying competition in which they had scored 37 goals in 6 matches.

Player development

All four coaches, however – Francisco Rubio (France), Ralf Peter (Germany), Thorlákur Árnason (Iceland) and Jorge Vilda (Spain) – insisted that the Women's Under-17 Championship is as much about player development as it is about winning trophies. Their task is also to prepare players for future assignments, and the 2011 final round certainly offered a glimpse of some of the women's football stars of tomorrow.



RESULTS

Semi-finals

28.7	Iceland – Spain	0-4
28.7	Germany – France	2-2*

* 6-5 on penalties

Third-place play-off

31.7	Iceland – Germany	2-8
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Final

31.7	Spain – France	1-0
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Spain and France were victorious in the semi-final encounters at the Colovray stadium in Nyon, Switzerland, on 28 July. Spain were comfortable 4-0 winners against Iceland. The young Spaniards were poised and skilful, and never looked back after Marina García's early breakthrough. Alexia Putellas swiftly added two more goals before half-time, and La Rojita's superiority was emphasised in the second half through a Glódís Perla Viggosdóttir own goal.

Penalty shoot-out

The second semi-final was a gripping affair, with Germany and France fighting out a tense 2-2 draw at the end of normal time. Lina Magull fired Germany into an early lead, but goals from Claire Lavogez and Lydia Belkacemi turned the tide for France after the interval. German substitute Annabel Jäger levelled near the close of normal time to set up a penalty shoot-out. France held their nerve to triumph 6-5 to reach the final.

Germany set a new target after their semi-final setback – third place in the championship. They achieved that objective with a resounding 8-2 success over Iceland. Hat-tricks from Lina Magull and Annabel Jäger, plus a strike by Sara Däbritz and a Melanie Leupolz free-kick, guaranteed that Germany took the bronze medal. Replies from Telma Thrastadróttir and substitute Aldís Kara Lúdvíksdóttir gave Iceland some consolation from a tournament which will serve as an important moment in the players' development.

The final was a tightly fought affair, with two disciplined defences ensuring that chances were at a premium in the first half, although Spain had the majority of possession. The pattern persisted after the restart – Spain had most of the ball, France held them at bay, goalscoring opportunities were increasingly rare, and it seemed a certainty that the match would go to a penalty shoot-out. However, in added time, impressive young winger Alba Pomares let fly a dipping shot over French keeper Solène Durand which hit the crossbar and bounced down into the net to give the Royal Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) another European WU17 crown. ●

Put hidden talents to light

The picturesque Minho region of northern Portugal played host to the best amateur selections on the continent from 21 to 28 June as the 7th UEFA Regions' Cup showcased the finest talents of amateur football.



The biennial UEFA Regions' Cup finals are a hidden highlight, as European football's governing body celebrates the continent's footballing foot soldiers. "There are more people playing amateur football than professional football, and football brings people together regardless of race, class or creed,"

said Jim Boyce, the new head of the UEFA Youth and Amateur Football Committee, and one of the competition's stalwart supporters.

With the eight competing teams all based in the same hotel in Ofir, it was to be a colourful tournament and an intriguing meeting of footballing cultures. Group A saw the host team, Braga, record three straight wins against Zlín Region (Czech Republic), Yednyst Plysky (Ukraine) and Württembergischer FV (Germany), while a canny Leinster & Munster side (Republic of Ireland) qualified for the final as the top team in Group B, edging out Belgrade (Serbia), Ankara (Turkey) and South Region Russia (Russia).

The final brought a healthy crowd to the Estádio Cidade de Barcelos, with Dito's Braga and Gerry Smith's Leinster & Munster hitting the bar before the break. The hosts' deft touches and excellent control made them the most skilful side at the finals, but Leinster & Munster's desire was monumental, and after they went behind to Pedro Nobre's solo effort on 61 minutes, they did not wilt, David O'Sullivan striking back within six minutes.



Braga sail through

In the end it took a lucky strike from the aptly named José Fortunato to win the game, the right-back's stunning lob six minutes from the end beating Brendan O'Connell in the Leinster & Munster net. "I was ecstatic when I saw that I had scored, but to tell you the truth, I meant to cross the ball, not shoot," he said.

Braga coach Dito – who represented Portugal as a central defender – received a visit from his senior national – team counterpart Paulo Bento at the finals, with the one time international midfielder impressed with the talent on display.

"The truth is that, with more patience and a different mindset, there could be a way to make more of amateur football and to allow amateur players to turn professional," Paulo Bento said. "However, urgency seems to be the key word in football nowadays, so clubs are not willing to take a gamble and hire players like these."

Dito returned to that theme as he celebrated his side's triumph, saying: "There is tons of quality in the lower divisions where these guys play and the people in charge of bigger clubs should really take the time to find out just how good they are."

It was captain Daniel Simões, however, who most eloquently summed up the magic of a tournament which gives red – carpet treatment to those who play for love, not money. "It's a golden page in our history books," the 27-year-old defender told UEFA.com. "It's possible that I still have plenty of years left in my career in football but I assure you that I will never forget all this experience, especially the moment when we lifted the trophy." ●

RESULTS

Group A

21 June	Braga – Zlín Region	3-1
21 June	Yednyst Plysky – Württembergischer FV	0-2
23 June	Zlín Region – Württembergischer FV	1-0
23 June	Braga – Yednyst Plysky	2-1
26 June	Württembergischer FV – Braga	1-3
26 June	Zlín Region – Yednyst Plysky	2-1

Group B

21 June	Ankara – Leinster & Munster	0-0
21 June	South Region Russia – Belgrade	2-3
23 June	South Region Russia – Ankara	1-2
23 June	Belgrade – Leinster & Munster	0-1
26 June	Leinster & Munster – South Region Russia	2-1
26 June	Belgrade – Ankara	2-0

Final

28 June	Braga – Leinster & Munster	2-1
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Massive benefits for football



European football is deriving immense benefit from the invaluable research being carried out by academics who have the opportunity to produce such work on UEFA's behalf through grants awarded by the UEFA research grant jury.

The House of European Football in Nyon was the venue in June for events relating to these activities. First of all, the UEFA research grant jury announced the successful candidates who have been awarded grants to undertake research projects over the next year. Then the jury heard the findings from the four projects chosen last year for the 2010/11 season.



The UEFA research grant jury and the four candidates for the 2010/11 grants

With UEFA recently launching initiatives aimed at generating research whose work will help the European football family in its decision-making, the UEFA research grant programme supports the work of doctoral and post-doctoral researchers investigating the game on this continent.

From the various proposals received for 2011/12, the following candidates were selected:

- Effects of hot/cold temperatures on referees' ability to perform
John Brewer, University of Bedfordshire, UK

- Protect her knee: exploring the role of football-specific fatigue on dynamic knee stability in female youth football players
Mark De Ste Croix, University of Gloucestershire, UK

- Anti-violence supporter groups in Serbian football: an ethnology case study
John Hughson, University of Central Lancashire, UK

- Wie viele Wettbewerb braucht Fussball? Eine Untersuchung zur Bedeutung der Wettbewerbsintensität aus Sicht Zuschauer (How much competition does football need? Research into the importance of competition intensity from the spectator's point of view)
Tim Pawlowski, Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln, Germany

- Les élites européennes du football durant l'entre-deux-guerres et les prémices d'un champ footballistique (European football elites in the interwar years and the beginnings of a European football 'field')
Grégory Quin, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland

- How can former successful European football teams capitalise on the UEFA Europa League in order to (re-)establish their brands?
André Richelieu, Laval University, Canada

The review of the 2010/11 research projects saw four academics present their work:

- Women's Football, Europe and Professionalisation 1971-2011
Dr Jean William, De Montfort University

- Corporate social responsibility in European football
Dr Geoff Walters, Birkbeck, University of London

- Le droit au pari des organisateurs de compétitions sportives, instrument de lutte contre la fraude? (Betting duties in favour of the organisers of sports competitions, an instrument in the fight against fraud?)
Lilia Douihech, Université Paris 9 Dauphine

- Professional football players from Cameroon in France in the period since 1954
Dr Stanislas Frenkiel, Université Lyon 1 Claude Bernard

"There are some very interesting endeavours there," said jury chairman William Gaillard of the research projects. "The football community tends to be quite insular – we live in a fish bowl. Very often we think of football as a unique phenomenon. What the academic world brings us is a slice of reality. They all contribute to making us understand better the reality we are confronted with, and to escape from our insular position." ●

The research grant jury

The UEFA research grant jury comprises **William Gaillard** (chairman, UEFA), **Nodar Akhalkatsi** (UEFA National Team Competitions Committee member), **Michel D'Hooghe** (UEFA Medical Committee chairman), **Per Ravn Omdal** (UEFA honorary member), **Giangiorgio Spiess** (UEFA honorary member), **Paul Downward** (professor, University of Loughborough), **Jan Ekstrand** (professor, Linköping University and UEFA Medical Committee first vice-chairman), **Mikkel Dræbye** (professor, SDA Bocconi, Milan) and **Gérald Simon** (professor, University of Burgundy, Dijon).



CFM

Improve by learning

A key aspect of UEFA's mission is to help its 53 national associations to constantly improve and develop. The UEFA Certificate in Football Management (UEFA CFM) is one invaluable example of how the associations are being encouraged on their way.

The first edition of the UEFA CFM has come to a successful conclusion with a graduation ceremony in June at the House of European Football in Nyon. Staff at the national associations have been given expert guidance in developing new management skills which will ultimately benefit the associations themselves in terms of know-how and expertise.

After coming through their final examinations, 30 participants were awarded with the certificate at the ceremony. The successful candidates came from across Europe – Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, England, Estonia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine and Wales – as well as from the UEFA administration.

Close relationship

Over the last few years UEFA has entered into an increasingly close relationship with the academic community through initiatives designed to assist the European football family to reach more informed decisions.

The UEFA CFM programme is based around UEFA's Knowledge & Information Sharing Scenario (KISS) and aims to help member associations enhance and increase their knowledge of sports organisation management, in particular in football.

"Contributing to the professional management of football across Europe has long been one of UEFA's goals," says the UEFA general secretary, Gianni Infantino. "The UEFA Certificate in Football Management is an excellent opportunity to develop professionally and

acquire new management skills specific to the sport. Thanks to this programme, we hope to support the staff of UEFA's national associations in the development of their managerial careers and in encouraging trustful exchanges among associations."

Nine modules

The foundation course consists of nine two-day modules, of which six are distance modules (elearning), while the other three involve face-to-face contact. Each module focuses on a key area of national association management and is prepared and run by internationally renowned academic experts. The UEFA CFM course runs for ten months, from September to June, and certificates are issued through the Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration (IDHEAP) in association with the University of Lausanne.

The major aspects of management covered by the modules include the organisation of European and world football, strategic and performance management of a football association, operational management of a football association, football event management, football marketing and sponsorship, and internal and external communication in football associations. FA presidents and general secretaries can recommend up to two staff members to UEFA each year as candidates for the UEFA CFM. The management board of the programme will then select up to 30 candidates for the course.

The UEFA CFM represents a first step and is followed by the UEFA Diploma in Football Management (UEFA DFM) in UEFA's three-stage education programme, which culminates in the Executive Master in European Sport Governance (MESGO). ●

The new UEFA committees

At its meeting in Nyon in June, the UEFA Executive Committee agreed on the composition of the 19 UEFA committees for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2013, ensuring that all the member associations were represented.

In principle, each committee is chaired by a member of the Executive Committee, with a fellow Executive Committee member as deputy chairman:

Club Competitions Committee. Chairman: Michael van Praag; Deputy Chairman: Giancarlo Abete.

Club Licensing Committee. Chairman: Avraham Luzon; Deputy Chairman: František Laurinec.

Development and Technical Assistance Committee. Chairman: Giancarlo Abete; Deputy Chairman: Theo Zwanziger.

Fair Play and Social Responsibility Committee. Chairman: Peter Gilliéron; Deputy Chairman: Allan Hansen.

Finance Committee. Chairman: Marios Lefkaritis.

Football Committee. Chairman: Mircea Sandu; Deputy Chairman: Borislav Mihaylov.

Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee. Chairman: Borislav Mihaylov; Deputy Chairman: Sergey Fursenko.

HatTrick Committee. Chairman: Allan Hansen; Deputy Chairman: Michael van Praag.

Legal Committee. Chairman: Theo Zwanziger; Deputy Chairman: Geoffrey Thompson.

Marketing Advisory Committee. Chairman: Sergey Fursenko; Deputy Chairman: Avraham Luzon.

Media Committee. Chairman: Vitaly Mutko; Deputy Chairman: Peter Gilliéron.

Medical Committee. Chairman: Michel D'Hooghe; Deputy Chairman: Jim Boyce.

National Associations Committee. Chairman: Senes Erzik; Deputy Chairman: Marios Lefkaritis.

National Team Competitions Committee. Chairman: Grigoriy Surkis; Deputy Chairman: Ángel María Villar Llona.

Players' Status, Transfer and Agents and Match Agents Committee. Chairman: Geoffrey Thompson; Deputy Chairman: Vitaly Mutko.

Referees Committee. Chairman: Ángel María Villar Llona; Deputy Chairman: Senes Erzik.

Stadium and Security Committee. Chairman: František Laurinec; Deputy Chairman: Grigoriy Surkis.

Women's Football Committee. Chairwoman: Karen Espelund; Deputy Chairman: Michel D'Hooghe.

Youth and Amateur Football Committee. Chairman: Jim Boyce; Deputy Chairman: Mircea Sandu.

The members of the Organs for the Administration of Justice, whose terms run for four years, were also appointed:

Control and Disciplinary Body. Chairman: Thomas Partl

Appeals Body. Chairman: Pedro Tomás Marques

Disciplinary Inspectors. Chief Inspector: Chris Georgiades.

→ The full list of the committee members can be found on UEFA.com

No more extra time in U17s

Direct knockout matches in UEFA's Under-17 competitions will no longer go into extra time if the two teams are level at the end of normal playing time. Following the example of FIFA, the UEFA Executive Committee took this decision for the sake of the players' health. This new rule came into force starting with the final round of European Women's Under-17 Championship in Nyon, Switzerland, played at the end of July.

Still with players' health in mind, the Executive Committee amended the regulations for the 2010–12 European Football Championship to make it a requirement for all players taking part in the final tournament to undergo a medical examination, including cardiovascular screening, within one year of the tournament, instead of two.

The same requirement will apply for the European Under-21 Championship final tournament in 2013.

Concerning the recent Under-21 Championship final tournament in Denmark, the committee approved the financial distribution to the participating teams. The winners



The UEFA Executive Committee meeting in Nyon

Extra time is no longer played in Women's U17 final rounds, so the semi-finals between France and Germany (2-2 at the end of normal playing time) went straight into a penalty shoot-out to determine the winners

Sportsfile

(Spain) receive €375,000, the runners-up (Switzerland) €325,000, the losing semi-finalists (Belarus and Czech Republic) €300,000 each, and the four other participants (England, Denmark, Iceland and Ukraine) €220,000 apiece.

For the 2011–13 European Under-21 Championship, the Executive Committee decided to bring forward the date of the final tournament in Israel to prevent it clashing with the FIFA Confederations Cup, which will be taking place in Brazil from 15 to 30 June 2013. The UEFA tournament will now start ten days earlier than originally planned and run from 5 to 18 June 2013. ●

Grassroots awards

Celebrated on 25 May, UEFA Grassroots Day was marked by numerous events throughout Europe.

In conjunction with this event, the Executive Committee made awards in three categories: best grassroots leader, best grassroots project and best grassroots club.

The award for best grassroots leader went to John de Looze of the Royal Netherlands Football Association (KNVB), who has spent 32 years involved as a volunteer, organising summer camps and disability courses, among other things. Danilo Lukner from Slovenia (ONS Ljubljana) and Heinz Maintalk from Germany were also recognised in this category.

The Schleswig-Holstein regional association development programme in Germany, which promotes fair play and opposes violence and xenophobia, was awarded the top accolade in the best grassroots project category, ahead of Ukraine's festival for disadvantaged children and Serbia's mini-maxi leagues programme.

Finnish club Hämeenlinnan Jalkapalloseura, the result of the merger of four clubs, was named best grassroots club in recognition of the great work it does in organising activities at all levels, including for disability football, providing an excellent environment for its 1,000 players and working closely with schools. Curley Park Rangers FC from England and Flevo Boys from the Netherlands also received special mentions.

● Staying with grassroots football, the UEFA Executive Committee accepted the football associations of Montenegro and San Marino as members of the Grassroots Charter at one-star level, as well as awarding a second star to Israel and sixth stars to Denmark and Moldova. Currently, 51 UEFA member associations have been accepted into the charter.

The UEFA Executive Committee also:

- introduced a clause into the UEFA Kit Regulations allowing clubs, under specific conditions, to place a charity logo on their players' shirts;
- noted that a shortlist of 18 EURO 2012 referees would be selected in August, to be whittled down to a final 12 in December;
- decided to honour all players who had made at least 100 appearances for a senior European national team;
- approved the 2011 edition of the UEFA Disciplinary Regulations, which subsequently came into force on 1 July, containing, among other revisions, a new provision (Article 10(1d)) laying down a "suspension for two competition matches or for a specified period for clearly receiving a yellow or red card on purpose." ●

The next UEFA Executive Committee meeting

The UEFA Executive Committee is holding its next meeting in Limassol in Cyprus on 22 and 23 September, following a strategy meeting involving the presidents and general secretaries of all UEFA member associations, also in Limassol, on 20 and 21 September. Among the key topics on the agenda of the strategy meeting will be the international calendar, the future of UEFA competitions and the governance of sport.

Super Cup and new award

On 26 August, the 35th UEFA Super Cup match will oppose FC Barcelona, winners of the 2010/11 Champions League, and the holders of the UEFA Europa League, FC Porto, at the Stade Louis II in Monaco.

The line-up is another first as although both teams have already played in the Super Cup, seven and three times respectively, they have never played each other for it. In fact, only once before have Portuguese and Spanish teams met in this competition, in 2004, when that year's UEFA Champions League winners, FC Porto, lost against the winners of the UEFA Cup, Valencia CF. Porto are also the only Portuguese club to have taken part in the competition, whereas five Spanish clubs have featured a total of 16 times (including this year).

In the participation stakes, the match against FC Porto will take Barcelona into the lead, ahead of AC Milan, with whom they are currently level on three appearances apiece. The Catalan giants have won the trophy three times to date (1992, 1993 and 2009), while Porto's only success so far was on their first appearance, in 1987. Whatever happens, AC Milan will retain their record of five victories in the competition.

This year's match will be the penultimate in a series that began in 1998, when the UEFA Super Cup was first played in a single game in Monaco. The UEFA Executive Committee has decided that from 2013, the show-piece game will tour the continent, with the first UEFA Super Cup away from Monaco to be played in Prague.

A new award

In terms of sporting action, the Super Cup match will, of course, be the highlight of the Monaco week, but off

the field, other exciting events will be happening, including, predominantly, the presentation of the first UEFA Best Player in Europe Award. The award, which will be presented on 25 August at the draw for the group stage of the UEFA Champions League, has been launched in partnership with European Sports Media (ESM) and aims to revive the spirit of the old European Footballer of the Year award and to recognise the best player of the previous season. It also replaces the awards previously presented by UEFA at the annual Monaco gathering.

Players will be judged on their performance during the 2010/11 season in all competitions, both domestic and international, at either club or national team level. Irrespective of nationality, to be eligible for the award a player has to have played during the season for a football club belonging to a UEFA member association.

A jury of 53 journalists

The jury for the award is composed of 53 renowned sports journalists, one from each of UEFA's member associations. Each journalist has provided a shortlist of three players, with the top player receiving five points, the second three and the third one point. The three players with the most points go into the final round of voting on 25 August in Monaco, when the same journalists will select the winner by electronic vote. The three finalists are Xavi Hernández (Spain, FC Barcelona), Lionel Messi (Argentina, FC Barcelona) and Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal, Real Madrid). They finished ahead of Andrés Iniesta (Spain, FC Barcelona), Falcao (Colombia, FC Porto),

Wayne Rooney (England, Manchester United FC), Nemanja Vidic (Serbia, Manchester United FC),

Zlatan Ibrahimovic (Sweden, AC Milan), Gérard Piqué (Spain, FC Barcelona) and Manuel Neuer (Germany, Schalke 04). ●

Thanks to Barcelona's success in the UEFA Champions League, quite a few of their players made it into the journalists' best player list



D. Aquilina

13 European places at stake

The UEFA EURO 2012 qualifying competition has still not reached its conclusion, but Europe's national teams are already dreaming about more distant horizons following the draw for the 2014 FIFA World Cup qualifying groups, which took place in Rio de Janeiro on 30 July.



The draw in Rio de Janeiro for the European qualifying groups

The teams, which had been split into six pots based on the FIFA world rankings, were drawn into eight groups of six and one group of five teams as follows:

Group A	Group B	Group C
Croatia	Italy	Germany
Serbia	Denmark	Sweden
Belgium	Czech Republic	Rep. of Ireland
Scotland	Bulgaria	Austria
FYR of Macedonia	Armenia	Faroe Islands
Wales	Malta	Kazakhstan
Group D	Group E	Group F
Netherlands	Norway	Portugal
Turkey	Slovenia	Russia
Hungary	Switzerland	Israel
Romania	Albania	Northern Ireland
Estonia	Cyprus	Azerbaijan
Andorra	Iceland	Luxembourg
Group G	Group H	Group I
Greece	England	Spain
Slovakia	Montenegro	France
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Ukraine	Belarus
Lithuania	Poland	Georgia
Latvia	Moldova	Finland
Liechtenstein	San Marino	

The qualifying matches will be played between September 2012 and October 2013. The nine group winners will qualify for the 2014 final round in Brazil. The eight best runners-up will contest play-off matches over two legs, the four winners of which will complete the European contingent. ●

FIFA U-17 World Cup

Mexico win on home soil

Mexico won the FIFA U-17 World Cup, which was played on their home soil from 18 June to 10 July, beating Uruguay 2-0 in the final.

The six European participants in this competition, who had qualified through their results at the European Under-17 Championship in Serbia in May, failed to repeat the brilliant campaign enjoyed by the European teams at the previous edition in 2009, when Switzerland won the world title in Nigeria.

The European Under-17 Championship runners-up, Germany, nevertheless performed very well, topping their group with three wins out of three and an impressive goal difference of 11-1.

They also shone in the round of 16, thrashing the United States 4-0, before defeating England in the quarter-finals. In the last four, they crossed paths with the future winners, who won 3-2 thanks to a last-minute winner. In a high-scoring match for third place, the Germans came from behind in the second half to beat Brazil 4-3.

The reigning European champions, the Netherlands, only won a single point in the group matches, as did Denmark. England finished top of their group, beating future finalists Uruguay in particular, and knocked out another South American team, Argentina, on penalties in the round of 16. They fell at the quarter-final stage, along with France, who were eliminated by Mexico (1-2). The French had previously finished second in their group before eliminating Ivory Coast. The Czech Republic, for their part, only recorded one win in the group matches and failed to progress. ●

Japanese women's football on top of the world

Japan caused a surprise by lifting the FIFA Women's World Cup for the first time at the conclusion of a final round played in nine German cities between 26 June and 17 July.

The Japanese team's quick, technical, slick style of play wrought havoc in this competition, in which England were the only team to find a way of beating them (2-0), albeit in a relatively meaningless group match after both teams had qualified. It was in the quarter-finals that the Asians clearly demonstrated their

France also performed well, finishing second in their group behind Germany before knocking out England on penalties in the quarter-finals. Sweden and France qualified for the 2012 Olympic tournament in London, alongside England.

Norway, 1995 world champions, had to make do with a single victory in a group dominated by 2007 finalists Brazil, who were knocked out in the quarter-finals by the United States.

Although the Germans were therefore unable to live up to expectations on the pitch, they ensured that this final round was a fantastic springboard for the future success of women's football. Never before had the women's game enjoyed so much media attention and the public joined in the celebrations by attending the matches in large numbers. FIFA recorded a total of 845,711 spectators for the 32 matches, including capacity crowds of more than 73,000 for the opening match in Berlin and around 49,000 for the final in Frankfurt. ●



Sweden beat France into bronze position at the Women's World Cup

ambitions and strength by eliminating Germany after extra time (1-0). The pressure was probably too much for the host nation, winners of the previous two editions. The Japanese confirmed their brilliance by knocking out Sweden in the semi-finals (3-1) before digging deep to equalise twice in a 2-2 draw against the United States in the final, which they won on penalties.

As far as the European sides were concerned, Sweden produced the best showing, winning the bronze medal by beating France 2-1 in the match for third place. The Swedes had previously won their group, beating future finalists the United States on the way (2-1) before eliminating Australia (3-1) and losing to Japan in the semi-finals.

UEFA Women's Champions League

Record participation

The qualifying round for the UEFA Women's Champions League was held between 11 and 16 August.

It took the form of eight mini-tournaments involving 32 teams. The eight group winners and the two best runners-up will enter the round of 32 alongside 22 teams who have qualified directly, including current holders Olympique Lyonnais. The competition attracted a record number of 54 entrants. ●

FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup

The FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup will be held in Ravenna (Italy) from 1 to 11 September. The draw in Rome at the beginning of July produced the following four groups:

- A: Italy, Iran, Senegal, Switzerland
- B: Argentina, El Salvador, Oman, Portugal
- C: Venezuela, Nigeria, Russia, Tahiti
- D: Brazil, Japan, Mexico, Ukraine. ●

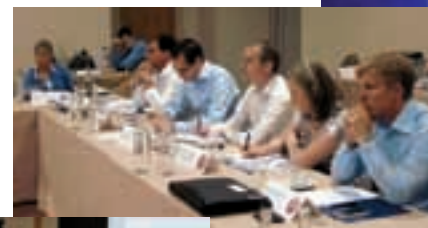
Awards for the best initiatives

The KISS project was developed by UEFA as part of the HatTrick programme to help member associations improve their governance by sharing information, practices and knowledge. The project is put into practice through workshops focusing on various subjects such as marketing, communication, media and event management.

To encourage and raise the profile of marketing initiatives taken by national associations, UEFA has decided to honour the best projects in certain key marketing areas by presenting the UEFA KISS marketing awards. The aim is to create a healthy spirit of competition, as well as to highlight the ways in which national associations derive benefit from the KISS workshops and the topics dealt with there.

The national associations have therefore been invited to nominate successful projects they have run in the following categories:

- Best loyalty programme
- Best social media campaign
- Best sponsorship activation
- Best brand strategy and implementation
- Best fan promotion



KISS workshops

Photos: UEFA

Participation is voluntary. Entries should set out the objectives of the project, the action taken and the result. The deadline for submitting entries – which can be viewed online at www.kiss-awards.net/ – is 28 October.

The entries in each category will then be judged by a jury of five marketing experts, who will pick out the five winners. The awards will be presented at the KISS workshop in Paris at the end of November.

News from Brussels

The UEFA president, Michel Platini, met the president of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, on 14 June at the commission's headquarters in Brussels. This was the second time the two presidents had met, now both in their second terms in office.

The visit took place in a very positive atmosphere. The meeting underlined the strong relationship between the EU's executive body and UEFA, and the continuing high-level dialogue between the organisations. Mr Barroso was fully supportive of the three main themes discussed: financial fair play, match fixing and the importance of national teams.

The UEFA president expressed his satisfaction at being able to continue the excellent working relations between UEFA and the EU institutions, and particularly the European Commission, in his second term. He noted that the organisations had come a long way since the Bosman days, and UEFA, and he personally, were committed to continuing the fruitful cooperation and working on issues of common interest.

In these tough economic times, the two presidents took the opportunity to discuss European football finances, which stroke a common chord. Mr Barroso was very supportive of UEFA's new financial fair play regulations, which introduce a more sensible approach to football clubs' spending.

Another key issue Mr Platini and Mr Barroso discussed was match fixing and the integrity of sport, a very timely theme in general, and where both agreed the support of national governments was crucial.

Finally, the UEFA president spoke about the promotion and development of national team football, an issue close to his heart. Mr Barroso agreed that national team sport reflects the EU's core ideas and that the protection of the national teams is crucial for the healthy development of European football. ●



José Manuel Barroso and Michel Platini

AFP



Armenia

www.ffa.am

New B coaching licence course gets under way

On 11 July, a new, four-stage B coaching licence course began. The second stage has now been completed and one of the instructors, Albert Safaryan, says about the course:

"This course is aimed at youth football, and our primary task is to teach coaches and give them training methods which are unique to each age group because every age group has its physiological features. We have created good conditions for organising and conducting courses at the football academy. There are 48 participants on the course.

"The main task is to teach coaches modern training methods. We have many talented children and doing the right work with them, in particular improving their technical skills and speed, will help them become good players. The exercises should be dynamic and suited to the players' age, while strenuous physical exercises should be avoided. It is also important to improve communication with children, using a training style, language and gestures that encourage them to become respectable individuals."

Also at the football academy, a training course for referees officiating in the Armenian premier and first divisions was held from 26 to 30 July. It was conducted by FIFA specialists in the persons of former FIFA referee Valentin Ivanov and FIFA physical training specialist Grzegorz Krzosek.

The course comprised theoretical and practical sessions, a fitness test, as well as observation and analysis of the referees appointed



The referees for the top two divisions

for the premier league match between FC Mika and FC Pyunik. Valentin Ivanov presented the changes to the Laws of the Game and other news, and also led practical courses for referees and assistant referees. For the practical courses, he was assisted by Grzegorz Krzosek and the head of the referee department of the Football Federation of Armenia, Karen Nalbandyan.

At the end of the course, Valentin Ivanov expressed his gratitude to the Football Federation of Armenia for organising the training course and hoped that the young referees

would continue to remain loyal to the profession, stressing that they needed to work hard to succeed.

Armen Minasyan, first vice-president and chief executive of the Armenian Football Federation, thanked the FIFA specialists for their work and also stressed the importance of hard work and dedication in order to become a competent referee. All the participants received certificates confirming their successful completion of the course.

● Tigran Israelyan



Azerbaijan

www.affa.az

Celebrations to mark the centenary of football in Azerbaijan

The Association of Football Federations of Azerbaijan (AFFA) has celebrated the centenary of football in Azerbaijan. On 6 June, the FIFA president, Joseph S. Blatter, and his

Three presidents cut the ribbon: Rovnag Abdullayev, Joseph S. Blatter and Michel Platini



UEFA counterpart, Michel Platini, were hosted by the president of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev. An inauguration ceremony for the new Dalgas Arena, constructed on the territory of the AFFA football centre in the Mardakan suburb of Baku was also scheduled on 6 June. The FIFA and UEFA presidents as well as the AFFA president, Rovnag Abdullayev, attended the ceremony. The three football presidents cut the symbolic ribbon at the entrance to the arena and released large balloons printed with the logos of the football organisations into the air.

The UEFA president also visited the site where the brand-new 65,000 capacity Olympic stadium will be constructed in the coming years. He participated in a ceremony to lay the foundation stone with the president of Azerbaijan and other guests. *"I am grateful to Mr Platini and Mr Blatter for their visit to Azerbaijan. Our football keeps growing and we can feel UEFA's support,"* said the AFFA president, Rovnag Abdullayev.

During the foundation stone ceremony, Mr Aliyev said: *"A gorgeous new stadium will be located on an area of 120,830 square metres and have the capacity for 65,000 spectators. Designed in a modern style, the Olympic stadium will meet all international standards."*

The same day, a banquet to mark the centenary of football in Azerbaijan was held at Buta palace. The guests included the FIFA and UEFA presidents, representatives of various national football associations,

famous football players and coaches, as well as football veterans. During a joint media conference, the FIFA and UEFA presidents expressed their satisfaction with the positive development of Azerbaijan football.

After the celebrations for the centenary, the AFFA held an international tournament at the new Dalgas Arena. The first edition of the Caspian Cup took place from 11 to 17 June with the participation of national Under-17 teams from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Spain, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan. It was won by Turkey, who beat Spain in the final after a penalty shoot-out, the score being 0-0 at the end of normal playing time. At the awards ceremony, Elkhon Mammadov, the AFFA's general secretary, Andrew Pospilovski, an AFFA executive committee member, and Iskandar Javadov, president of the Azerbaijan regional football federation, presented the participants with their medals and trophies.

After the ceremony, Tahir Karapinar, head coach of the Turkish U17s, said: *"I'm very happy that we were the first winners of the tournament. The Caspian Cup is the biggest youth tournament in the region. I thank all the fans who came to support us at this wonderful stadium. They encourage us all to do more. I hope this tournament will be a regular event and we'll visit sunny Baku next year again."*

● Mikayil Narimanoglu/
Ulviyya Najafova



Belarus

www.bff.by

Youth tournament a huge success

During the hot days of summer and while the children are off school, the Football Federation of Belarus (BFF) is actively promoting grassroots football among youngsters.

One of the activities organised by the BFF this summer is that of football holidays. The first three such summer camps took place in June in the Minsk region, with the three camps coming together to compete in a football tournament. Each camp was represented by teams in several age groups, as well as a girls' team. Such was the success of the event that the federation decided to develop it and organised seven more camps in July. They also played in a tournament in several age groups and had girls among the participants.



An enthusiastic bunch of young footballers

One of the VIPs to visit the tournament was the head coach of the national team, Bernd Stange. His appearance was very popular among children and adults alike, with everyone wanting to have their photo taken with him.

The general secretary of the BFF, Andrey Sidorenko, presented the winners of the tournament with balls and other gifts.

During both tournaments, football festivals were organised for children aged between six and nine, who played football and practised under the watchful eye of grassroots football ambassadors. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Meanwhile, those who were not taking part in the tournaments or who were too old for the festival were there to cheer on the teams representing their camp. Parents came too, to support their children.

● Yulia Zenkovich



Belgium

www.footbal.be

Belgian U19s among the best in Europe

Our national Under-19 team had the honour to participate in the final round of the European Under-19 Championship, held in Romania from 20 July to 1 August. Though knocked out in the group stage, they returned home on a distinct high after a fantastic experience.

Their route to the final round had not been easy, having found themselves in the same qualifying round group as England, along with Albania and Cyprus. However, Marc Van Geersom's players excelled themselves, taking nine points out of nine in the tournament staged in Belgium. After beating Cyprus and Albania 4-1 and 2-0 respectively, our team also went on to beat England 2-1.

In the elite round, Belgium landed in the same group as Portugal, Croatia and Estonia. Again, it was not going to be an easy job, but our team performed brilliantly once more in Croatia, where the tournament took place, beating Portugal 1-0 before securing a place in the final round with a 3-2 win against Croatia. In their final match of the elite round tournament, Belgium managed a goalless draw against Estonia.

The excellent job done by all the staff assisting Marc Van Geersom, who was taking a team into a UEFA youth championship final round for the sixth time, was therefore rewarded. Our Under-19s were among Europe's elite and determined to go as far as possible in the final round, despite a draw which could have been more favourable than placing our team in the same group as Spain, Turkey and Serbia.

In their first match – postponed by a day because of a violent storm – our youngsters came up against the group favourites, Spain. Belgium played well but were quickly reduced to ten men after goalkeeper Koen Casteels was sent off. Despite an early goal by Spain, our team were not deterred and pulled back a goal. Then, after an unsettled spell, Spain got on top of their game again and eventually scored twice in added time. Although we lost 4-1, the scoreline was influenced somewhat by the fact that we had only ten players on the field for most of the match. Against Turkey, we again found ourselves reduced to ten players, this time in the 42nd minute. We conceded the first goal but still found the moral strength to equalise and bag our first point. In our last match, against Serbia, our

opponents took an early lead, which we managed to cancel out. After that, we had opportunities to take the lead but they came to nothing and a draw was not enough to see us through to the next round.

After the tournament and our team's elimination, Marc Van Geersom was nonetheless full of praise for his players: *"It's always disappointing to be knocked out, but I'm very proud of my players. We had a great run in the tournament, losing only against Spain. In the final round, my players came up against some top players and gained experience that will definitely hold them in good stead for the rest of their careers."*

● Pierre Cornez



The Belgian U19 team



Bosnia and Herzegovina

www.nfsbih.ba

New national team coaches appointed

Bosnia and Herzegovina are still in with a chance of qualifying for the play-offs and thus a place in the EURO 2012 final tournament. In early June, Safet Sušić's players lost 3-0 away to Romania and then beat Albania 2-0 at home. Ahead of the final qualifying matches, Bosnia and Herzegovina are lying in third place in Group D, behind Belarus. Their next two matches, against Belarus, first in Minsk and then in Zenica, could be crucial in determining who secures the runners-up spot in the group. For their last two qualifiers, Bosnia and Herzegovina first host Luxembourg and then travel to France.

The normalisation committee established after the suspension of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Football Federation (NFSBiH) is still in operation. The first task of the committee, headed by Ivica Osim, was to convoke a general meeting, where new statutes in compliance with those of UEFA and FIFA were adopted unanimously. The normalisation committee, which is acting as the federation's executive committee, will cease to operate at the end of November, when another general meeting will be held to elect a president and other leaders.

Another of the normalisation committee's tasks was to appoint coaches for all the national teams. At Under-21 level, Vlado Jagodić already has one match under his belt, a 3-0 win away to



Ivica Osim, chairman of the normalisation committee

San Marino in the team's first qualifier in the 2011-13 European Under-21 Championship.

At club level, meanwhile, the various 2010/11 league champions are: Premier league: FK Borac Banja Luka; Women's league: WFC SFK 2000 Sarajevo; Juniors: FK Sloboda Tuzla; Cadets: Sarajevo; Pioneers: Sarajevo; Futsal: KMF Leotar Trebinje.

And the cup winners are: Men: FK Željeznica; Women: WFC SFK 2000 Sarajevo; Juniors: HSK Zrinjski Mostar; Futsal: Tango (Lukavica).

The new, 2011/12 premier league season got under way on 6 August. The newly promoted teams are GOSK Gabela and FK Kozara Gradiška, replacing FK Budućnost Banovići and FK Drina Zvornik, who were relegated at the end of last season.

● Fuad Kravac



Croatia

www.hns-cff.hr

Elections and anniversaries

The Croatian Football Federation (CFF) has held a general meeting to elect its president and members of the executive committee. There were two presidential candidates, the incumbent president, Vlatko Marković, and former Croatian international Igor Štimac, who played for the bronze medal winning team in the 1998 FIFA World Cup in France. The election was won by Vlatko Marković, who therefore enters his fourth consecutive four-year term in office. Several new members join the 17-strong executive committee, including Branko Ljaljak from NK Inter Zaprešić, the new president of the alliance of Croatian first division clubs, who also becomes one of the vice-presidents of the CFF. Prior to the general meeting, Zorislav Srebrčić, the federation's general secretary, was also appointed for a new four-year term, his fourth in a row too. Elections aside, the meeting adopted the CFF's development programme for the new term and decided to change the competition system. As a



Zorislav Srebrčić, general secretary, and Vlatko Marković, president

result, starting next year, the first division will consist of 12 clubs instead of 16, falling to 10 at the end of the season. Reducing the number of clubs in the championship is expected to make the competition more interesting. In other news, two of Croatia's most successful clubs, HNK Hajduk Split and GNK Dinamo Zagreb, celebrated their centenaries. These clubs stand as symbols of Croatian football at its best, through the country's

turbulent historical times, as well as in the glory days of Croatian football's development. As the new season gets under way, the clubs' competitive streak and rivalry are stronger than ever, with the lure of the domestic championship, domestic cup and a good performance in the UEFA club competitions of special significance this year. The clubs' celebrations also mark the way for the CFF's own centenary celebrations next year. Qualifying for EURO 2012 in Poland and Ukraine would, of course, be the best centenary gift of all, and all hopes are therefore placed on the remaining EURO 2012 qualifiers. At youth level, our selection participated in the FIFA U-20 World Cup in Colombia. We are sure there will be more players from this team playing for the A team in the future. Last but not least, preparations for next year's European Futsal Championship final round in Croatia are progressing well. We are confident that we will meet all our obligations and justify the confidence placed in us to host the tournament.

● Ante Pavlovic



Cyprus

www.cfa.com.cy

Seminar for referees

From 7 to 10 July, the Cyprus Football Association (CFA) successfully held its annual seminar for referees and referee observers, attended by UEFA instructors Jaap Uilenberg and Phil Sharp.

In the presence of the CFA president, Costakis Koutsokoumnis, and deputy president, George Koumas, the referees and referee observers were brought up to date on the latest developments in their field.

Meanwhile, on 11 July our new UEFA Pro licence course got under way. UEFA observer Jerzy Engel was present for the first part from 11 to 15 July.

In all, 13 Cypriot coaches have been selected for this new CFA UEFA Pro licence course.

A FIFA futsal coaching course will follow later in July, led by FIFA futsal instructor Vick Hermans, while a FIFA women's football coaching course took place in June attended by FIFA instructor Monica Staab.



The UEFA Pro licence candidates

In other news, the CFA has officially announced Nikos Niomplias as the new head coach of the senior national team. He will take charge of the national team for the 2014 World Cup qualifiers as well as for the remaining EURO 2012 qualifying matches.

"We will try to raise the level of our football and to do something more in the 2014 World Cup qualifying games," Niomplias said after his appointment.

● Kyriakos Giorgalllis



Denmark

www.dbu.dk

Football management project proving its worth

Last year the Danish FA finished the first chapter of a project to develop new talents in football management. The project was a success for all those involved, and now a new intake of participants have started their training.

The 24 participants selected for the second course have recently completed the first of four modules. The success of the inaugural course means that expectations are high regarding this year's results.

"I am very happy with the way we are training the participants to be qualified to take on top management positions in football clubs and in organisations. Last year we had the pleasure to welcome a group of students who had an enormous desire to learn about Danish football from an organisational perspective, leadership at different levels and, not least, about themselves



One of the aims of the course is to strengthen the role of women in football

as people and leaders," said Poul Gilling, head of education at the Danish FA.

The aim of the project is to strengthen Danish football in terms of leadership. One of the goals

is to increase the number of women who are qualified to take a seat in the boardroom and to lead teams and organisations. In Denmark, 71,000 girls and women play football but only one of the 16 members of the board of the Danish FA is female.

There are 16 women and eight men participating in the second course, during which they will learn about strategic leadership, change management and organisational theory, and also work on their personal profiles and networks.

Each of the four modules will be a mix of theory and practice and take place in one or two-day seminars between March and November. The first module focuses on personal leadership, the second is devoted to organisational knowledge, the third takes the form of a future workshop, and during the fourth and final module, the students have to present their assignments.

● Maria Bach Jensen

Back to Cape Town

Although memories of the FIFA 2010 World Cup are fading, our partnership with the international charity Coaching for Hope (CFH) is still going strong. The FA was back in Cape Town in July to see CFH's latest project, entitled Empowerment of Women and Girls Through Football.

Launched in June, this football project brings together CFH, the city of Cape Town and six community-based, local organisations to encourage positive youth development; namely to promote gender equality by inspiring women to take an active role in their community and allowing girls to participate in a sport that is commonly inaccessible to them.

With the help of local NGOs and training sessions delivered by SAFA instructor Marion February as well as two coaches from the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, Karen Hills and Olivia Worsfold, CFH now has a number of local women coordinating and delivering regular football activity to girls (aged 12 to 18) for an initial 20-week period.

During a four-day visit, The FA was able to understand some of the challenges that these women and girls face in their communities and,

by attending various training sessions as well as an inter-community tournament, was also able to observe an already hugely successful collaborative project. Maria de Leon, international development manager at The FA, said: "Having already worked with CFH on a number of projects, it came as no surprise to see that, even only three weeks in, the project was already having an extremely positive effect of the women and girls involved."

"Some of the girls had never had the opportunity to play football before and I witnessed group after group of immensely happy faces and a more than decent amount of skill! I remain thoroughly impressed and humbled by the enthusiasm and energy in everything CFH and the project's different partners do – I don't believe The FA could have a better international charity partner."

Lucy Mills, project officer at Coaching for Hope, who has been responsible for the smooth running of the project, added: "We now have regular, safe and consistent activity for girls in six communities and the eventual aim to have functioning women and girls' clubs in place by the end of the year certainly seems achievable."



Empowering women and girls through football

The project's women have the necessary support to not only develop their coaching skills, thus building their own self-confidence, but they are also being encouraged to talk about the problems they face in their communities, such as a lack of access to playing fields, alcohol and substance misuse, violence and rape, to name only a few.

This is a project about women leading women with the aim of supporting local communities to create a sustainable positive environment in which football can be accessible to all.

● Maria de Leon

Watch us play!

"Do we have to go this far for you to come and watch us?" Like their German counterparts, France's national women's team organised a publicity campaign in 2009 for which some of the players posed in the flesh. In 2011, judging that "we're good enough; we don't have to take our clothes off," to quote Sandrine Soubeyrand, France's captain, Bruno Bini's team launched a seduction operation with a difference, aimed at breaking down the persisting prejudices about women's football.

So it was that on 11 June, on the first day of their training camp at Clairefontaine (the national training centre for France's national teams), the women's squad, the French Football Federation and its communications department organised "The Challenge", an unprecedented event during which the players and their guests pitted their skills against each other in football tennis, dribbling, juggling, shooting and free-kick clinics.

With a strong dose of good humour and a touch of competitiveness, Gaétane Thiney and her team-mates set about impressing the journalists and other key figures who had accepted their invitation. The girls' dexterity and fitness won the admiration of their guests without too much diffi-

culty, but, as Camille Abily said, the hardest challenge remained: "People have to watch a top-level women's football match. Only then can they really say whether they like it or not."

Her wish was to become a reality when, on 13 July, for the Women's World Cup semi-final between France and the USA (1-3), which was shown live at 18.00 on Direct 8, the French women's national team set the small screen alight by

breaking all free-to-air digital cable TV audience figures, with an average of 2.325 million viewers, corresponding to an audience share of 16.5%, peaking at 3.26 million during the final 15 minutes.

It was a successful challenge for the women's national team, and one they more than deserved to win!

● Séverine Schlosser

New national championship system

The Georgian Football Federation (GFF) has started to organise the national championship, because of the temporary financial problems of the Georgian professional football league. Having taken over the organisation of the championship at the start of the second half of last season, the GFF has decided to introduce some changes for the new season: instead of 10 teams, the new championship will start out with 12 teams, who will play each other home and away in the first round. From there, the eight best clubs will continue into the second round, taking with them half the points they earned in the first round, and again play each other home and away, thus taking the total number of championship matches played to 36.

The four teams who do not make it into the second round will play home and away against the four best first division teams, starting with a clean points sheet. The top four teams from these play-offs will remain in or be promoted to the top division and the bottom four will remain in or be relegated to the first division.

This more complex championship system was devised by the president of the GFF, Domenti Sichinava. It has won the acceptance of Georgian football fans and the media, and been duly approved by the GFF executive committee.

In connection with the new system, the Georgian government is supporting the GFF with the construction of three new pitches, in Gori, Poti and Kobuleti, whose infrastructure will also be renovated.

The 20th GFF congress also proposed an important new initiative whereby every club can be a member of the congress, which means that for next congress the number of delegates will increase to approximately 50–56.

● Tatia Burduli/Mamuka Kvaratskhelia



Two members of the French women's national team with some of the guests invited to take part in "The Challenge"



A new format for the domestic championship



Germany

www.dfb.de

Women's World Cup nets €5m for youth development

For the organisers, the recent FIFA Women's World Cup was also a great success from a financial point of view. Pending the final audit, pre-tax profits of around €10.6 million are expected. About €3 million would be due in profits tax, leaving a net gain of some €7.6 million.

At the moment, revenue of €50.6 million is forecast. Thanks to the smooth running of the tournament and the highly responsible financial attitude of all the departments concerned, the organisers estimate expenditure of about €40 million. The organisers' total budget was originally calculated at €51 million.

"Higher income from higher tickets sales and lower expenses – that was the formula for what was, even for us, a surprisingly successful event,"

said Theo Zwanziger, president of the German Football Association (DFB). The largest slice of the profits, i.e. €5 million, is earmarked for girls' and women's football. *"The idea is to invest this money into the development of girls' and women's football,"* said Hannelore Ratzeburg, DFB vice-president. *"On 1 September, the newly set up DFB women's football department starts up, headed by Steffi Jones. One of their first jobs will be to draw up suitable projects and campaigns for sustainable grassroots development in this area."*



The Women's World Cup was a success all round

In addition, a €1 million solidarity contribution is due to be made to German sport, including €500,000 for the German Olympic association, €150,000 each for the German disability sports association and Special Olympics, and €200,000 for the German sports aid foundation. A further €1 million is set aside as special bonuses and interim allowances for the staff of the organising committee. Finally, €640,000 is due to be distributed among the operators of the nine World Cup stadiums, each of which should receive an additional €20,000 per match staged.

● Niels Barnhofer



Israel

www.israel-football.org.il

Playing with professionals

For the third consecutive year, the Israel Football Association (IFA) hosted an open house day, inviting children, parents and anyone else interested to take a peek behind the scenes of the Israeli football world, including a look at the playing fields and dressing rooms.

Throughout the day, children's cup final matches were played, trophies and medals awarded, and emotional farewell ceremonies held for retiring national team staff. Different contests were also organised, such as free-kick contests and contests

measuring the speed of the ball. Professional footballers held autograph sessions, and an exhibition match was played between former national team players and a celebrity all-star team which included some of Israel's top actors and singers. Over 10,000 football fans came and enjoyed the event, which took place at the national stadium in Ramat-Gan. This event is considered the pinnacle of the IFA's activities with and for the community. Moving forward with its grassroots project, the IFA will continue to invest in resources and means to conduct similar projects and activities in the future.

● Michal Grundland



Latvia

www.lff.lv

UEFA HatTrick activities in Latvia

On 1 July, the Latvian Football Federation (LFF) and the city of Jurmala opened an artificial football field at the Kauguri high school. The full-size

in these cities. In all, the LFF plans to install about 17 large-size artificial pitches throughout the country this year.

In other news, the Latvian national team is preparing for its EURO 2012 qualifying matches against Georgia (away on 2 September) and Greece (in Riga on 6 September), while the Latvian Under-21 team will be welcoming France for a 2011-13 European Under-21 Championship qualifying match on 2 September, after which they travel to Romania for another qualifier four days later.

Meanwhile, Latvian futsal fans are delighted that two exciting futsal tournaments will be organised this autumn in Latvia. First of all, there is the Group 2 tournament in the main round of the UEFA Futsal Cup from 28 September to 2 October, when four-time Latvian champions, FK Nikars, Riga will compete against FC Barcelona from Spain and two teams from the preliminary round for a place in the elite round of 16 futsal clubs. After eight years of playing qualifying tournaments abroad, the Latvian national futsal team will host the Group C preliminary round matches for the 2012 World Championship from 19 to 23 October, when the hosts will come up against Cyprus, England and San Marino for a place in the main round in December.

● Viktors Sopirins



Young footballers will benefit from UEFA's HatTrick programme

artificial pitch was given by the LFF as a gift to the city of Jurmala, becoming the first large-sized artificial football field to be built in Latvia, thanks to funding from the second cycle of UEFA's HatTrick programme.

Earlier this year, implementation of UEFA HatTrick-funded projects started in Latvia with the signature of contracts with the cities of Daugavpils, Rezekne, Preiļi, Zilupe, Ogre and Riga for the installation of artificial football pitches



Liechtenstein

www.lfv.li

Girls on the Ball poster campaign

During the FIFA Women's World Cup, the Liechtenstein Football Association (LFV) ran a refreshing poster campaign to attract girls interested in playing football. Across the country, three such girls beamed down on passers-by and drivers on our small country's main roads.

The posters attracted astonishing attention. One of the young poster models said that her mother had received phone calls from people saying how nice it was to be greeted in such an uplifting way on their way to work in the mornings. In addition to the cheerful poster subjects, the posters bore an unusual slogan – not in standard German but in SMS-style Liechtenstein dialect. The short and snappy invitation to come and play football read *kum afd oh* ("just come along"). Spelling aside, the public liked it and the LFV hopes it will boost club membership.

The great football at the FIFA Women's World Cup, the poster campaign, training sessions for curious girls and various other actions should help strengthen girls' and women's football in Liechtenstein, so that it will one day be possible to form a national women's team.

● Anton Banzer



An uplifting poster

Beach football tournament in Vilnius

For the first time, Vilnius has hosted an international beach football tournament to mark the start of the summer, with teams from neighbouring Russia (Kaliningrad Oblast), Belarus and Moldova joining the hosts, Lithuania. The tournament was held in Belmontas, an area of Vilnius best known for its beautiful park.

The Belmontas Cup tournament opened with the inauguration of a new beach football pitch, which will also be used for Lithuanian beach football championships.

As for the tournament itself, Belarus produced the best football to win all three games, with Russia coming in second and Moldova dramatically edging hosts Lithuania into third place. "The tournament was a real success. We hope it will become a tradition and return next year," said



The captain of the beach soccer team from Belarus holds the trophy aloft

the tournament director, Olegas Borisovskis from the Lithuanian futsal association.

● Vaidotas Januska

First super cup trophy for FK Shkëndija 79

The Football Federation of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has held its first super cup match, won by the league champions, FK Shkëndija 79, against the cup holders, FK Metalurg.

The match took place on 24 July at the Philip II arena. Both teams played well, but the league champions had the edge over their opponents and, after taking a 2-0 lead, won the match 2-1.

The trophy was presented to the captain of the winning team, Mustafa Nebi, by the president of the federation, Hari Hadzi-Risteski, who said:



FK Shkëndija 79, winners of the first super cup

"I think we made a great move by finally introducing this competition to bring the curtain down on the old season and as a prelude to the new season, which starts at the end of July. This will

certainly be a traditional fixture that football fans will look forward to, and I hope it will also mean a lot to our top teams."

FK Shkëndija 79 were in particularly celebratory mood after the game, having completed the most successful season in their history by winning the championship and the super cup, thus going down in the annals of football in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as the first holders of this title.

● Zoran Nikolovski

Revamping the refereeing sector

The Malta FA's ongoing plans for the continued improvement of the game on the island include the refereeing sector. With the help of UEFA, and also through the Malta football referees' association, the Maltese association has been proactive over the years in raising the standards of referee-

ing in the country. The latest initiative has been the appointment of a director of refereeing, who will be entrusted with the job of overseeing all the needs of match officials as well as their continuing education.

On the recommendation of the executive committee and the subsequent approval of the MFA council, the choice fell on Adrian Casha, a former FIFA international referee who has had vast experience of refereeing international and domestic top-class matches. Since his retirement, Adrian Casha has remained involved in the field of refereeing as well as sharing his knowledge of the Laws of the Game, of which he has produced a fully fledged Maltese translation.

The process of revamping the refereeing sector will also be boosted by the academic qualities of the new director, who will reorganise Malta's match officials and eventually set up an academy of local referees.

● Alex Vella



The new director of refereeing, Adrian Casha (left), presents his translation of the Laws of the Game to the president of the Malta FA, Norman Darmanin Demajo

CS Goliador-SS 11 win Moldovan women's cup

The Moldovan women's cup final opposed the champions, CS Goliador-SS 11 from Chisinau, and FC Academia UTM Chisinau. At the end of a dramatic match, Goliador-SS 11 emerged as the winners on a final score of 1-0 after extra time. The only goal of the match was scored by Natalia Munteanu in the 110th minute.

At the official ceremony after the match, the captain of the winning team, Ludmila Ninicu, received the trophy from the general secretary of the FA of Moldova, Nicolae Cebotari.

"It was very important for us to win this match and to add a new trophy to the collection in the



CS Goliador-SS 11, winners of the women's cup

club's museum. I was pleased with my players' performance, but we can still do better," said Goliador's head coach, Victor Greapca, at the media conference.

● Press office

Coach education programmes updated

Despite being one of UEFA's smallest member associations, the Irish Football Association continues to lead the way in utilising new technology to help football coaches complete their qualifications. As part of a wide-reaching modernisation review, the Irish FA has updated its coach education programmes to better reflect the way we live, learn and work with technology today.

Recognising the huge impact that modern technology has had on the game, the Irish FA, in partnership with academyfootballcoach.co.uk, recently announced a new programme that provides aspiring coaches with access to the same digital tools and resources that are used every day by coaches at some of the world's top clubs. These include the ability to illustrate practical coaching sessions with clear and highly visual digital diagrams, rather than the clipboard of old.

Nigel Best, head of coach education, and Desi Curry, technical director, are spearheading this new approach to coach education programmes with technology at its heart. This new way of working lets aspiring coaches continue to complete practical elements with the added option of completing their coursework electronically.

Desi Curry said: "This is an exciting project to be involved in which will not only help our aspiring coaches but also the Irish FA in terms of our coach education programme." Nigel Best added: "We have been working with academyfootballcoach.co.uk for the last year in terms of getting the new technology right. This programme demonstrates that we are not only forward thinking but innovative at the Irish FA. The initial feedback on the system has been fantastic and I believe this will be a great tool for all involved in our coach education programme."

● Geoff Wilson



Phil Abbott, director of Academy Soccer Coach, and Nigel Best, head of coach education



Republic of Ireland

www.fai.ie

Festival of football a massive hit in Clare

In July, the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) held a week-long festival of football to coincide with the FAI AGM in County Clare on the west coast of Ireland. To mark the occasion, the FAI gave 28 football clubs and leagues in the county a share of €100,000 in grants towards equipment and programme development to improve standards and boost participation numbers in the county.

While the week-long festival proved a massive hit throughout the county, former international players were also a huge attraction, with John Aldridge and Ray Houghton meeting fans in nearly every corner of the county.

The highlight of the festival was the FAI pre-AGM delegates' event, which officially brought the week to a close. A number of prolific awards were announced, such as the inaugural communications awards, the coach of the year award and the club of the year award.

Tramore AFC from County Waterford beat off competition from seven other clubs to claim the club of the year award, with their dedication to community development over their 59-year history playing a big part in them taking the prestigious award.

Meanwhile, the coach of the year award was presented to the coach of the Irish homeless squad, Vernon McAllorum. This annual award has been established in memory of the late Noel O'Reilly, renowned international and domestic coach, and recognises an individual who has shown outstanding commitment to football coaching and the further development of football players at grassroots level.

Other award winners on the night included eight FAI communications award winners, who were rewarded for their promotion of all levels of Irish football.

Legendary broadcaster the late Philip Greene was honoured at the event with the inaugural communications hall of fame award following his death in May. Football correspondent Eamon



The winners of the communications awards with the president and chief executive of the FAI, Paddy McCaul and John Delaney

Scott scooped the best national article award, while Johnny Craig came out top in the best regional article category. TV3 won the communications award in the best national broadcast category for their coverage of the UEFA Europa League final at the Dublin Arena on 18 May. Other winners included Clem Ryan (regional radio award), Tramore Rangers FC (best website), Bobby Lynch (public relations officer of the year for the North Tipperary schoolboy league), while Bray Wanderers picked up an award for a publication on the clubs history and Noel Browne won the best photograph category.

● Fran Whearty



Scotland

www.scottishfa.co.uk

New referee award introduced

The Scottish FA and the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) have launched the new refereeing professional development award.

This new qualification will enable schoolchildren to develop the knowledge and skills to start a career in refereeing and will be delivered by the SQA in partnership with the Scottish FA from next year.

The course will be delivered in two separate units – the first focusing on practical refereeing and the second on the Laws of the Game – with candidates needing to complete both units in order to qualify for the professional development award.

John Fleming, head of refereeing development at the Scottish FA, said: "This PDA [professional development award] will play a pivotal role in the future of refereeing in Scotland and will hopefully lead to more young people seeing refereeing as a career option for them. Today's announcement is the culmination of a lot of joined-up work between the Scottish FA and the SQA, and the introduction, and future development of the course, could not have happened without the valuable support



Launch of the new refereeing professional development award

of our sponsors, Specsavers." Craig Thomson, category one referee and the Scottish FA's education and recruitment manager, added: "I started as a referee at the age of 16 but no such formal qualification existed then. I am delighted that our partnership has resulted in today's announcement. It is important for the younger generation to realise that it is possible to have a career as a referee – a career that has given me the honour of being on the same pitch as players such as Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo."

Alastair MacGregor, head of science, technology, engineering and mathematics at the SQA, said: "At the SQA we work together with a whole host of partners to develop and deliver courses across Scotland and are delighted to be working with the Scottish FA in the delivery of this course, which will allow senior pupils to gain a firm understanding of what is involved in being a referee."

● Darryl Broadfoot



Ukraine

www.ffu.org.ua

Zhytlobud lift Ukrainian Women's Cup



FC Zhytlobud-1 Kharkiv with their new trophy

FC Zhytlobud-1 Kharkiv beat FC Legenda Chernigiv 4-3 on penalties to win the Ukrainian Women's Cup at the Victor Bannikov stadium in Kyiv on 24 July. The two current leaders of the Ukrainian women's league were still locked on a 1-1 scoreline after 90 minutes. Tatyana Shramok had put FC Legenda Chernigiv ahead in the 80th minute, before being sent off for handball in the dying seconds of normal playing time. Iya Andrushchak's penalty put the teams level again and forced the game into a tense period of extra time.

Outnumbered but not overpowered, FC Legenda Chernigiv kept up the pressure. In the end, the FC Zhytlobud-1 Kharkiv goalkeeper, Iryna Sanina, saved two spot kicks in the ensuing penalty shoot-out to secure a second successive cup win for her team.

● Ivan Dyvak



Switzerland

www.football.ch

30 years of the Swiss schools championship

The Swiss schools football championship remains the biggest youth sports event in the country. During this, its 30th anniversary year, as many as 150,000 boys and girls took part in the competition, with the best 250 teams from all the Swiss cantons and the principality of Liechtenstein going through to the finals in Basle.

Today, the championship is a symbol of grassroots sport in Switzerland, but this was not always the case. Charly Rubli, former head of grassroots football with the Swiss Football Association, recalls: "Football was never allowed in the school playground and anyone who disobeyed was punished. And teachers preferred to teach other sports." Only thanks to a lot of persuasion and patience on the part of the competi-

tion organisers did the Swiss schools football championship become what it is today. "I am delighted with what the event has become," Rubli says.

Winners and losers alike, on the day of the finals in Basle there were smiles on everyone's faces, including those of some erstwhile participants who have gone on to become top footballers. For midfield virtuoso Gürkan Sermeter (formerly with Grasshopper Club, Young Boys and Aarau; today with Bellinzona), winning the schools football championship was an unforgettable experience. "Lifting the trophy was a fantastic moment," the free-kick specialist recalls.

A special trophy presentation ceremony and the presence of the Swiss national coach, Ottmar Hitzfeld, who signed autographs, rounded off a very successful event.

● Pierre Benoit

Birthdays

Match delegate **Barry Taylor** (England) celebrates his 70th birthday on 5 September. He is joined at the same milestone on 7 September by technical instructor **György Mezey** (Hungary), and on 23 September by **Goetz Eilers** (Germany), member of the Appeals Body. Match delegate **João Morais** (Portugal) turns 50 on 1 September, followed by referee observer **Slawomir Stempniewski** (Poland) on 26 September, and **Lufi Aribogan** (Turkey), vice-chairman of the Marketing Advisory Committee, on 30 September. UEFA wishes them many happy returns, as it also does to:

Gerhard Aigner (Germany, 1.9)
José Guilherme Aguiar (Portugal, 1.9)
Manuel Diaz Vega (Spain, 1.9)
Marco Brunelli (Italy, 2.9)
Gérard Houllier (France, 3.9)
David R. Elleray (England, 3.9)
Ulrich Grzella (Germany, 3.9)
Rudolf Bata (Czech Republic, 4.9)
Prof. Wilfried Kindermann (Germany, 4.9)
Victor Mintoff (Malta, 4.9)
Grigoriy Surkis (Ukraine, 4.9)
Bogdan Ceko (Bosnia & Herzegovina, 5.9)
Sulejman Colakovic (Bosnia & Herzegovina, 5.9)
Eijä Vähälä (Finland, 6.9)
Bernd Stöber (Germany, 6.9)
Ivan Hašek (Czech Republic, 6.9)
Antonio Laranjo (Portugal, 7.9)
Werner Helsen (Belgium, 7.9)
Adrian Titcombe (England, 8.9)
Igor Klimper (FYR Macedonia, 8.9)
Kostadin Gerginov (Bulgaria, 9.9)
Geir Thorsteinsson (Iceland, 9.9)
Ilonka Milanova Djaleva (Bulgaria, 9.9)
Ioannis Tsachlidis (Greece, 11.9)
Katarzyna Wierzboska (Poland, 11.9)
Tomas Karpavicius (Lithuania, 11.9)
Ahmet Güvener (Turkey, 12.9)
Talal Darawshi (Israel, 12.9)
Tanya Gravina (Malta, 12.9)
Stanislaw Speczik (Poland, 13.9)
Jon Skjervold (Norway, 13.9)
Ingrid Jonsson (Sweden, 13.9)
Frank Wormuth (Germany, 13.9)
Javid Garayev (Azerbaijan, 14.9)
Dejan Savicevic (Montenegro, 15.9)
Sokol Jareci (Albania, 15.9)
Revaz Arveladze (Georgia, 15.9)
Karl-Heinz Tritschler (Germany, 16.9)
Antonis Petrou (Cyprus, 16.9)
Kelly Simmons (England, 16.9)
Heike Ullrich (Germany, 16.9)
Antoine De Pandis (France, 17.9)
Antero Silva Resende (Portugal, 18.9)
Senes Erzik (Turkey, 18.9)
Roberto Rosetti (Italy, 18.9)
Miroslava Migalova (Slovakia, 18.9)
Stefano Farina (Italy, 19.9)
Gaioz Darsadze (Georgia, 19.9)
Milos Markovic (Serbia, 20.9)
Ruud Bruijnis (Netherlands, 21.9)
Helena Herrero González (Spain, 21.9)
Viktor Paradnikov (Ukraine, 21.9)
Nenad Dikic (Serbia, 21.9)
Stefan Weber (Germany, 21.9)
Cornelis de Bruin (Netherlands, 22.9)

Vasile Avram (Romania, 22.9)
Giangiorgio Spiess (Switzerland, 24.9)
Eugen Strigel (Germany, 24.9)
Ionel Piscanu (Romania, 24.9)
Matteo Frameglia (Italy, 24.9)
Hans Reitingner (Austria, 25.9)
Dr Mogens Kreutzfeldt (Denmark, 25.9)
Paul Krähenbühl (Switzerland, 25.9)
Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (Germany, 25.9)
Christine Frai (Germany, 25.9)
Rotem Kamer (Israel, 25.9)
Stephen Lodge (England, 26.9)
Camelia Nicolae (Romania, 26.9)
Ales Zavrl (Slovenia, 26.9)
Jens Kleinfeld (Germany, 27.9)
Jindrich Rajchl (Czech Republic, 27.9)
Karel Bohunek (Czech Republic, 28.9)
Mariano Delogu (Italy, 28.9)
Prof. W. Stewart Hillis (Scotland, 28.9)
Michel Girard (France, 28.9)
Michael van Praag (Netherlands, 28.9)
Roland Beck (Liechtenstein, 28.9)
Eric Romain (Belgium, 28.9)
Cristina-Daniela Uluc (Romania, 30.9)

Forthcoming events

Meetings

31/8–1/9/11, Nyon
 Elite Club Coaches Forum
9/9/11, Zagreb
 European Futsal Championship: final round draw
19–21/9/11, Prague
 Workshop for coach education directors
20–21/9/11, Limassol
 Strategy meeting of the presidents and general secretaries of UEFA member associations
22–23/9/11, Limassol
 UEFA Executive Committee

Competitions

1–11/9/11, Italy
 FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup
13–14/9/11
 UEFA Champions League: group matches (matchday 1)
15/9/11
 UEFA Europa League: group matches (matchday 1)
24/9–2/10/11
 UEFA Futsal Cup: main round
27–28/9/11
 UEFA Champions League: group matches (matchday 2)
28–29/9/11
 UEFA Women's Champions League: round of 32 (first legs)
29/9/11
 UEFA Europa League: group matches (matchday 2)

Notices

- On 7 June, Campbell Ogilvie became president of the Scottish Football Association.
- On 18 June, Noël Le Graët was elected president of the French Football Federation for a term extending until December 2012.
- On 29 June, Mehmet Ali Aydınlar was elected president of the Turkish Football Association

New on the bookshelves

Get... Juiced ! The Laws of Effective Teamwork

With over 25 years' experience as a sports coach, including in football, Roberto Forzoni has written a 25-step guide to building mentally tough, high-performing, winning teams in sport, business and life. (www.robertoforzoni.com)

Obituary

Gerhard Kapl (Austria) passed away on 25 July aged 64. A former international referee, he went on to become a UEFA match delegate, referee instructor and, from 2006, disciplinary inspector.



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