

**Including**

**EURO  
is there for  
the taking 03**

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**Referees  
prepare for  
EURO 2008 05**

---

**Ekaterinburg  
take the  
Futsal Cup 09**

---

**Coach  
educators  
in Cascais 10**

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Photos: UEFA/plwoods.ch

# Message of the president

## Preserving the human factor in football

Do we need to use video footage to help referees make delicate decisions? At its meeting in Scotland in March, the International Football Association Board (IFAB) said no, and I happen to support this view entirely, not because I think that the rules are cast in stone and we should in no way change them, but because we must be careful not to lose sight of the bigger picture: football is a game before all else and we must do everything in our power to preserve its human qualities.

Of course, in an ideal world everyone would acknowledge that, in spite of the vast sums at stake in today's professional game, the impact of a win or a defeat cannot be measured in financial terms alone and that the best way to help the referees is to respect them. This means accepting their decisions, not trying to trick or influence them, accepting that they can make mistakes just like the players and recognising that in a match, a whole 90 minutes of play, there is plenty of time to ensure that a wrong decision by the referee has no decisive impact on the result.

There is no denying that the omnipresence of cameras has made the referees' job much trickier, despite ever more thorough preparation. Likewise it would be utopian to expect everyone to serenely accept mistakes made by those who preside over the game. And ignoring a problem never makes it go away. This is why I proposed to the IFAB that referees be given an extra pair of eyes – not technological, but human – to help them monitor what is happening in the penalty area.

FIFA will soon carry out tests to assess the efficacy of this measure. The aim is to shift some of the pressure from the referees to the players, who, knowing that they are being watched by an assistant behind the goals, may learn to behave more "sensibly" in the goal areas.

Surely this is worth a try!

**Michel Platini**  
UEFA President

### IN THIS ISSUE

- More than ever, EURO is there for the taking **03**
- Referees prepare for EURO 2008 **05**
- The "Fan Zones" in the host-city centres **06**
- The European Championship turns 50 **08**
- Ekaterinburg take home the Futsal Cup **09**
- Coach educators in Cascais **10**
- UEFA selects its new building **11**
- News from member associations **15**

### COVER

Co-hosts with Switzerland for EURO 2008, this will be Austria's first time in a European Championship final round.

Photo: Stollarz/Bongarts/Getty Images

# Final tournament in Austria and Switzerland

More than ever, EURO is there for the taking



Portugal's Nuno Gomes scores against Greece in their friendly. Portugal were unable to avenge their EURO 2004 defeat but are nonetheless among the favourites for EURO 2008.

Rys/Bongarts/Getty Images

**THE 13TH EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP – THE FINAL ROUND OF WHICH WILL BE CONTESTED FROM 7 TO 29 JUNE IN AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND – HAS BROUGHT TOGETHER ALL THE PREVIOUS WINNERS (OR THEIR “HEIRS” IN THE CASE OF RUSSIA AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC), WITH THE SOLE EXCEPTION OF DENMARK. WITH THE FOUR SEMI-FINALISTS OF THE LAST WORLD CUP ALSO STILL IN THE RUNNING, THE STANDARD IS SET TO BE EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH. THAT SAID, UNLIKE THE WORLD CUP, THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP HAS BEEN KNOWN TO THROW UP A SURPRISE WINNER OR TWO. THE GREEK TITLEHOLDERS WOULD BE AMONG THE FIRST TO AGREE. HERE IS A QUICK RUNDOWN.**

#### Group A: Ronaldo's consecration?

Fourth in the 2006 World Cup, finalists in “their” EURO of 2004, and home of Cristiano Ronaldo, widely acknowledged as one of the best players on the planet, Portugal would have to be favourites in their group. And yet, although solid in defence and creative in midfield, they still lack that world-class

centre forward. With neither Figo nor Pauleta – both of whom have stepped down from the international scene – coach Luiz Felipe Scolari also lacks an intermediary on the pitch. Switzerland will make their mark, and not just because of the home crowd. Indeed, with the return of goalscorer Frei and other talented players (Barnetta in particular),

they could put their disappointing results in the friendlies behind them. Köbi Kuhn, for whom this will be the third successive major tournament, will certainly want to hand his coaching reins to Ottmar Hitzfeld on a high. As for the Czech Republic, descendants of the Czechoslovakia that took the title in 1976, they have maintained a lower profile. Having already failed to get past the first round of the last World Cup, they have now lost Pavel Nedved (international retirement) and Karel Poborsky (complete retirement). Captain Tomas Rosicky is injured and Jan Koller, the best goalscorer in the history of the side, is stuck on a downward spiral. Will a united front be enough to get them through the first



Italy and France met in the qualifiers. Massimo Oddo helps team-mate Gennaro Gattuso stop Nicolas Anelka.

Meyer/AP/Getty Images



Romania and the Netherlands were also in the same group for the qualifiers. Adrian Mutu takes on two Dutch opponents.

Getty Images



Xavi Hernandez (8) and Spain got the better of Andrea Pirlo's Italy in their friendly.

Tuson/AP/Getty Images

round? Turkey could well be asking themselves the same thing. Emotions will run high when they meet Switzerland, two and a half years after their 2006 World Cup qualifier. Even with the Altintop brothers, Nihat and Bastürk, however, Turkey look like the underdogs.

### Group B: Who can halt Germany?

Third in "their" World Cup, Germany (who have also been European champi-



Michael Ballack: once again a masterstroke for Germany.

Baron/Bongarts/Getty Images

ons on three occasions) are clear favourites in Group B. And more than that... By offering Jürgen Klinsmann's position to his former assistant, Joachim Löw, the association also ensured continuity in the coaching. With a formidable attack – Löw has the pick of Podolski, Gomez and Kuranyi to partner Klose – Germany are on impressive form. Especially with

Michael Ballack back at the top of his game after a tough start at Chelsea. The only question mark hangs over the goalkeeper, with Lehmann having dropped to reserve keeper at Arsenal. Croatia are determined to make their mark, under the guidance of coach and rocker Slaven Bilic (he composed the team's EURO tune). The squad is youthful and talented, although their potential on the attack is reduced by the serious injury to Eduardo. Led by old hand Leo Benhaker, Poland are making their EURO debut. A tight team complete with excellent keeper (Boruc) and powerful striker (Smolarek), Poland's chances of reaching the quarter-finals are good. The same cannot be said for Austria. Absent from all major international competitions since 1998 and complete novices at this stage of the European Championship, Austria are possibly the least convincing of the 16 finalists. Could the incitement of the home crowd and the experience

of keeper Manninger and captain Ivanschitz be enough to beat the odds?

### Group C: Inseparable

Unanimously seen as the most exciting constellation, this group pits against one another teams that know their opponents inside out. France and Italy, finalists in the last World Cup, even met in the EURO qualifiers, as did the two so-called outsiders, the Netherlands and Romania. After a few difficult months, Italy (European Champions in 1968) have absorbed their World Cup victory. The new coach, Roberto Donadoni, has rejuvenated the squad with some promising new forwards and midfielders. He has fewer options when it comes to his more mature defence, but the line-up is nonetheless solid in front of the impeccable Buffon. France, twice European champions (in 1984 and 2000), have coped well post-Zidane. Ribery is forever improving and Lyon forward Karim Benzema is one of this year's most exciting young talents. His freshness could compensate for Thierry Henry's rather subdued season with Barcelona. As a player, Marco van Basten helped the Netherlands to their only title (1988), with his goal in the final going down in football history. After the EURO he is stepping down



The referees get into peak physical condition.

UEFA-pjwoods.ch



A watch with a 45-minute timer designed especially for the EURO 2008 referees.

Hublot SA

(to return to Ajax) and will be replaced by Bert Van Marwijk. Beforehand, he will be counting on a combination of seasoned players such as Van der Sar or Van Nistelrooy and rising stars such as Huntelaar, Sneijder and Babel to unsettle the two favourites. Romania finished above the Netherlands in their qualifying campaign. With a solid line-up, they can rely on two champions – Mutu up front and Chivu in defence – both of whom would love to create a storm.

### Group D: Time ripe for Spain?

Spain have not won an international title since 1964. Will this be their year? Luis Aragonés – who is set to resign after the EURO whatever happens – has a first-rate midfield (Iniesta, Fabregas, Xavi) and attack (Villa, Fernando Torres). Despite keeper Casillas and Barcelona captain Puyol, their defence is less convincing. They are nevertheless group favourites, ahead of Greece, the reigning European champions. The titleholders, still headed by Otto Rehhagel, will not have surprise on their side this time. A very (perhaps too) experienced team, Greece have seen the emergence of Leverkusen goalscorer Gekas, but they have no real stars. Unlike Sweden, who are relying on the redemption of Ibrahimovic, a centre forward as impressive as he is inconsistent, following a disappointing World Cup. He could make all the difference, more so than the gifted Kallström or aging Ljungberg. The qualification of Russia – heirs to the USSR that took the first title in 1960 – was fairly miraculous, benefiting as they did from England's loss at home to Croatia (who had already secured a place in the final round). The Russian team is young and inconsistent but the coach, Guus Hiddink, is capable of a feat or two, as he demonstrated with the Netherlands, South Korea and Australia.

Emanuele Saraceno

# Preparation behind the scenes

## The 17th team at EURO 2008

**IN MID-APRIL, A EURO 2008 PREPARATORY WORKSHOP FOR REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES TOOK PLACE IN REGENSDORF, ZURICH, WHICH WILL ALSO SERVE AS THE BASE FOR THE REFEREE TEAMS DURING EURO 2008.**

During the three-day workshop, the 12 teams of selected match officials – each consisting of one referee and two assistants – plus eight specially appointed fourth officials took a fitness test and were given specific technical instructions in view of the final round.

At a media briefing held on 17 April in Regensdorf, UEFA emphasised the importance of the referees, assistant referees and fourth officials as the "17th team" at EURO 2008, underlining the referees' role in protecting the players and football's image at the tournament. The chairman of the UEFA Referees Committee and a UEFA vice-president, Angel María Villar Llona, confidently affirmed that the match officials were of the highest-ever quality and fully prepared for their duties, speaking of the "excellent physical condition of the referee teams and their

readiness for what will be a great tournament".

The technical instructions given to all match officials were presented by two members of the UEFA Referees Committee, Hugh Dallas and Vlado Sajin, and were mainly focused on the need to support "positive play" and act firmly against challenges that use excessive force and thus endanger the opponent's safety. In particular, referees were told to punish holding and pushing in the penalty area, simulation, mass confrontation and dissent.

At the end of the press conference in Regensdorf, all 44 EURO 2008 match officials were presented with a watch designed for the finals by the tournament's official watchmakers and timekeepers, Hublot. The watches were specially designed for use at this final tournament and include special 45-minute and 15-minute timers.



The 17th team all present and correct, with referees, assistant referees and fourth officials.

UEFA-pjwoods.ch

The Geneva "Fan Zone".



INEPSA

Layout of the area reserved for supporters in Salzburg.



Trix and Flix look forward to welcoming supporters from all over Europe.

# "Fan Zones" at the heart of the host cities

**FOLLOWING THE ENORMOUS SUCCESS OF THE UEFA "FAN PARK"**

**AT EURO 2004 AND THE WIDESPREAD POPULARITY OF THE "FAN FEST"**

**CONCEPT ADOPTED FOR THE 2006 WORLD CUP IN GERMANY,**

**UEFA HAS TAKEN THE IDEA ONE STEP FURTHER FOR EURO 2008.**

Each of the tournament's eight host cities will have its own official "Fan Zone", to be run by the municipal authorities in agreement with UEFA. These areas will enable supporters who do not have a match

ticket, as well as visitors and local residents, to taste the atmosphere of EURO 2008 and join the party.

The basic idea behind these supporters' zones is to ensure that the football is not confined to the stadiums, but is available to the whole city, offering supporters an alternative experience. All of these official zones will be located in the city centres, with the main focus on the live transmission of the 31 matches on 25 giant screens in total, in a controlled, safe environment that is open to everyone free of charge.

Each day, there will also be an entertainment programme for the supporters, interactive activities, football competitions and five-a-side matches. Food and drink will also be available. The zones will be open every afternoon and evening, with some also open in the morning.

The official sponsors of EURO 2008 are planning numerous activities for the supporters. Each "Fan Zone" will have its own unique events.

In **Basel**, where the "Fan Zones" will accommodate up to 35,000 supporters across three sites, two giant screens will be installed on a bridge across the Rhine. Concerts will take place each day, even on non-matchdays.

In **Berne**, the zones will cater for a maximum of 40,000 fans and 35 concerts are planned, covering all musical genres.

In **Geneva**, the "Fan Zone" will be able to accommodate 60,000 visitors. French singer Yannick Noah will perform an opening concert on 6 June; the programme will also include other concerts and a comedy show.

In **Zurich**, the zone near the lake will have a capacity of around 45,000 fans. Here also, the focus will be on music, as well as ball-juggling demonstrations.

In Austria too, visitors will be able to enjoy this additional attraction, which is bound to leave them with unforgettable memories of their stay.

In **Innsbruck**, at the foot of the Olympic ski jump, 15,000 visitors will be able to watch the matches on a giant screen and, as well as concerts, will have the chance to see some ski-jumping and a fireworks display.

In **Klagenfurt**, there will be space for 28,000 fans in two zones,

A giant screen will be put up in front of the city hall in Vienna.



City of Vienna

## Information

Opening times and detailed programmes for the "Fan Zones" will be published on the following websites.

- [www.euro08.basel.ch](http://www.euro08.basel.ch)
- [www.euro08-bern.ch](http://www.euro08-bern.ch)
- [www.fanzone-geneve.ch](http://www.fanzone-geneve.ch)
- [www.zuerich.ch/euro2008](http://www.zuerich.ch/euro2008)
- [www.innsbruck-tirol08.at](http://www.innsbruck-tirol08.at)
- [www.klagenfurt.at/euro2008](http://www.klagenfurt.at/euro2008)
- [www.salzburg.info/euro2008](http://www.salzburg.info/euro2008)
- [www.fanzone-wien.at](http://www.fanzone-wien.at)

# EURO 2008 arrives in Liechtenstein

On 11/12 April, 250 members of UEFA and Euro 2008 SA met in Vaduz to get to know one another better ahead of the largest sports event ever hosted by Switzerland and Austria. Under the heading "Switzerland meets Austria", they chose Liechtenstein as the halfway point.

## Team building

As the tournament draws ever closer, the COO of Euro 2008 SA, Martin Kallen, the tournament director for Switzerland, Christian Mutschler, and some staff from Nyon and the eight host cities were invited to get to know each other in person. The Austrians got to meet their Swiss counterparts, and vice versa, faces were put to names, and experiences, questions and ideas were exchanged.



Hand in hand in a circle to reinforce the team spirit.

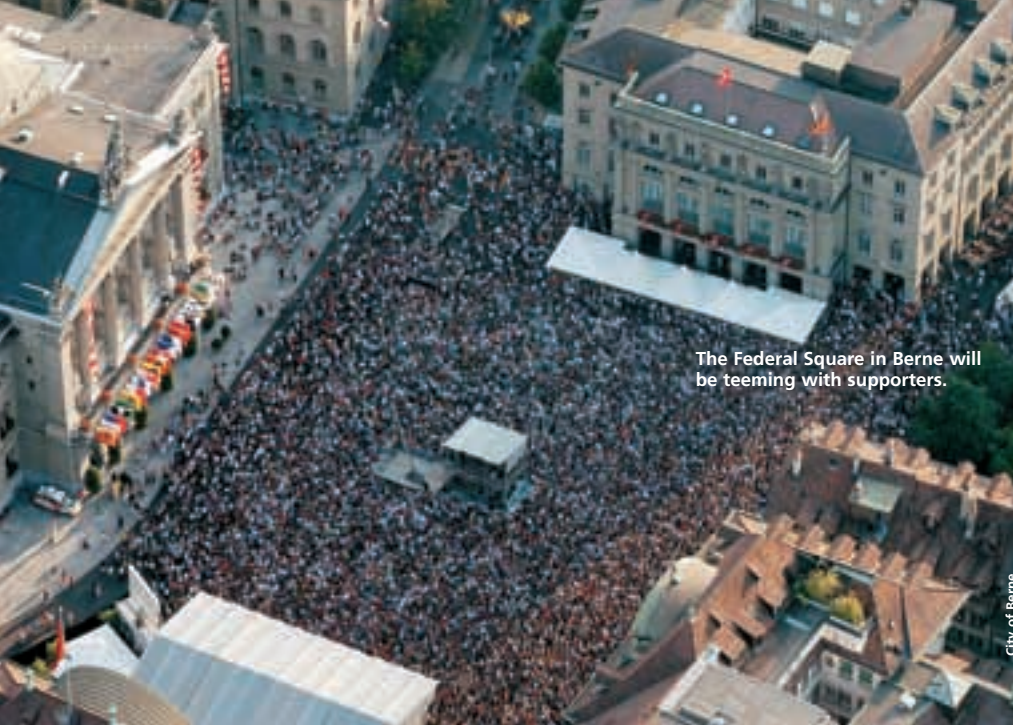
Participants were split randomly into 14 teams, given a map and sent out on foot to find various addresses in Vaduz and complete all sorts of interesting tasks. Obviously the aim of the game was for each team to find their feet as quickly as possible and collect more points than their competitors.

That evening, the Liechtenstein FA and the government of the principality organised an evening of drinks, dinner and music.

Saturday morning was earmarked for training and, at the same time, served as a mini dress rehearsal for the tournament, which is so eagerly anticipated by hordes of fans.

Both the football association and government of Liechtenstein were delighted to welcome so many UEFA and Euro 2008 SA staff to the principality.

*Sandra Schwendener*



The Federal Square in Bern will be teeming with supporters.

City of Bern

where music will also be high on the agenda.

In **Salzburg**, 25,000 people will be accommodated, with a music programme every day.

In **Vienna**, where the EURO 2008 final will be played, nine giant

screens will be available for the 70,000 expected visitors. The EURO Experience Tour (see box) will be open to visitors, who will also be able to enjoy a musical extravaganza, including a performance by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra.

## A new experience

In order to draw the public's attention to the event and provide a foretaste of EURO 2008, an unusual convoy is making its way across the two host countries, finishing up in Vienna – where it will remain until the end of the tournament – after stopping in 11 other Swiss and



UEFA

Austrian cities since the end of January. The Euro Experience Tour is an inflatable structure comprising two domes. One contains an interactive game zone and other entertainment programmes. The centrepiece is the European Championship trophy, the Henri Delaunay Cup, with which every visitor can have their photograph taken.

The second dome houses a 180-seat cinema, where spectators can watch the highlights from previous European Championship final rounds on five screens with a combined width of 35m.

In figures, the Euro Experience Tour is a 14m high inflatable structure covering a surface area of 60 x 40m, comprising 10,000m<sup>2</sup> of canvas and 2,000 panels. Each dome weighs around 5 tonnes and no less than three articulated lorries are required to transport the whole structure from city to city.



UEFA



AP/Getty Images

A confident move by Yugoslavia keeper Vidinić in the 1960 final against the USSR.



UEFA

Succeeded by his son, Pierre, the first UEFA general secretary, Henri Delaunay (left) played a leading role in the creation of the European Nations' Cup.



Flash Press

# 50th anniversary From the European Nations' Cup to the European Championship

**FIFTY YEARS AGO, FOOTBALL ENTHUSIASTS WERE GETTING EXCITED ABOUT THE WORLD CUP, WHICH WAS DUE TO KICK OFF IN SWEDEN ON 8 JUNE.**

Four days before the tournament started, as the recently formed governing body of European football was preparing to hold its fourth ordinary general meeting in Stockholm, there was a certain tension in the air. On one side, those pushing for the creation of a European competition for national teams were awaiting the green light from the delegates, while on the other, a number of senior officials were not at all convinced of the urgency of setting up such an event and hoped to prolong the feasibility study, as they had done ever since the proposal for a European Cup had been submitted to the 1955 Congress in Vienna. In the end, the fervour of the former group held sway over the half-hearted attitude of the latter thanks to the determination of the UEFA's Danish president, Ebbe Schwartz, and the firm intervention of the general secretary, Frenchman Pierre Delaunay.

It was not long before the draw took place in the Swedish capital two

days later, on 6 June. Seventeen national associations had registered for this inaugural European Nations' Cup. The draw was overseen by Hungarian Gustav Sebes, who had also chaired the committee which had studied the idea of such a competition.

## A very simple procedure

As there was an odd number of participants, two "capsules" were drawn first: those of Czechoslovakia and the Republic of Ireland, who therefore had to play a preliminary round (home and away matches). Each national association representative was then invited to draw one of the 16 numbers placed in the urn. It had been decided in advance that number 1 would play number 2, 3 versus 4, etc. The following matches were therefore drawn:

- Hungary-USSR
- Poland-Spain

- GDR-Portugal
- Yugoslavia-Bulgaria
- Turkey-Romania
- Denmark-preliminary round winners
- France-Greece
- Austria-Norway

## French trophy

After the draw, the president of the French Football Federation, Pierre Pochonet, announced that his federation would provide a trophy for the winners. Thanking him, UEFA President Ebbe Schwartz suggested that the competition be named the Henri Delaunay Cup, "because of the great service given to international football by the late general secretary of the French federation."

The proposal was approved by the participants and, a few months later, the trophy was created by Parisian goldsmith Chobillon. The Greek captain Theodore Zagorakis was the last to lift the trophy in 2004, before it was "beefed up" to bring it more into line with modern demands.

On the pitch, the first match took place in Moscow on 28 September 1958 in front of an impressive crowd of over 100,000 spectators (the qualifying round had not yet been played, since the calendar had not yet been fixed). The USSR won 3-1. This was the first step in their smooth run to the final, which they won in Paris on 10 July 1960, beating Yugoslavia in front of a much smaller crowd (just under 18,000 spectators).

This first edition concluded with a four-team final tournament played in France (Paris and Marseille). The competition had taken off: almost all the national associations (29 of the 33 UEFA members) participated in the 1962-64 edition. A qualifying round with group matches was then introduced for the 1966-68 competition, a format which led to it being renamed the European Football Championship. A final round involving eight teams was introduced in Italy in 1980 and the current 16-team format was launched in England in 1996.



Keystone

A modest lap of honour by the Soviet team led by captain Igor Netto and legendary goalkeeper Lev Yachine.



Dinamo Moscow (Aleksandr Rakhimov, in blue) beat Kairat Almaty (Emerson) to take third place.



Sergei Zuev, Ekaterinburg's goalkeeper, makes a save as the final draws to a close.



ElPozo Murcia went ahead three times in the final, but on each occasion failed to maintain the advantage.

# 2007/08 UEFA Futsal Cup Ekaterinburg triumphant in Moscow

**IN A DRAMATIC FINAL AT THE KRYLATSKOE SPORT PALACE IN MOSCOW, VIZ-SINARA EKATERINBURG – WHO HAVE NEVER EVEN WON A DOMESTIC LEAGUE – GOT THE UPPER HAND OVER ELPOZO MURCIA OF SPAIN AND CELEBRATED THE BIGGEST VICTORY IN THE CLUB'S HISTORY.**

Viz-Sinara Ekaterinburg, based 1,700km east of the Russian capital, were only able to take part because, with fellow Russian's Dinamo Moscow as titleholders, the country had a second berth. The newcomers from Ekaterinburg, who unlike their Brazilian-fuelled Moscow rivals rely for the most part on home-grown talent, made an impressive debut.



Murcia on penalties following a 1-1 draw. Last year's champions nevertheless secured third place with a convincing 5-0 win over Kairat Almaty. The Moscow crowd scored even more highly for their frenzied support of rivals Ekaterinburg in the final despite the hosts' elimination.

## Final verdicts

Ekaterinburg coach Sergei Skorovich had every reason to be proud of his team: *"Few expected this from us or thought we would battle for the top places, but we kept faith and kept working to do so. We had two very tough games here. Tonight we were a goal down three times, we bent our backs, we struggled, we suffered, but we held firm and finally tipped the balance in our favour."* For his part,

## Emotional rollercoaster of a final

The Russian novices faced their ultimate test in the final against the seasoned Spaniards of ElPozo Murcia, who made it into the final four last year. A great fighting spirit enabled Ekaterinburg to equalise almost instantly on three occasions in the second half, forcing the match into extra time (4-4). In the all-important penalty shoot-out, goalkeeper Sergei Zuev's three saves made him man of the hour.

## Disappointment for the hosts

Even in their semi-final against Kairat Almaty, Viz-Sinara Ekaterinburg gave a very mature performance and refused to be unnerved by the strong Kazakh team's initial dominance. Despite being one down at half-time, the Russians kept their calm, equalised early in the second half, and clinched it with three additional counter-attack goals in the final six minutes (4-1).

The other semi-final ended in disappointment for the titleholders and hosts, Dinamo Moscow, who lost to

Duda, the Murcia coach, was a good sport: *"Ekaterinburg won tonight because they showed exceptional will-power. We had most of the possession and attached more but every time we went in front they did not give up and managed to equalise. I want to congratulate them on this."*

## Spanish yardstick

Despite Russian victories in the last two UEFA Futsal Cup competitions, Spain still dominates the honours list with four titles in all. In 2005 Action 21 Charleroi became the only club to break through the Spanish-Russian futsal domination. This year's competition was the second to have been decided in a "final four" stage. The matches were broadcast by Eurosport and, for the first time, could also be followed on uefa.com (live streaming).

## Results

### Semi-finals (25.4.2008)

Kairat Almaty – Ekaterinburg	1-4
ElPozo Murcia – Dinamo Moscow	1-1*

\*penalty kicks: 4-2

### Third place play-off (27.4.2008)

Kairat Almaty – Dinamo Moscow	0-5
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### Final (27.4.2008)

Ekaterinburg – ElPozo Murcia	4-4*
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\*penalty kicks: 3-2



Photos: sportsfile



Questions and answers help give depth to the topics covered and practical exercises illustrate the theory.



# Coach educators course in Cascais

## The coaches of the coaches

**THE REWARDING, BUT OFTEN UNHERALDED JOB OF COACH EDUCATOR WAS EXAMINED RECENTLY AT THE 17TH UEFA COURSE FOR COACH EDUCATORS FROM 7 TO 11 APRIL IN CASCAIS, NEAR LISBON. THE EVENT FOCUSED ON THE ROLE OF THE PEOPLE TRAINING YOUNG COACHES FOR A FUTURE CAREER IN THE GAME – COACHES WHO THEN HELP NURTURE GOOD FOOTBALLERS AND RAISE STANDARDS THROUGHOUT EUROPE.**

The course featured practical and theoretical work, as well as panel discussions and working groups. "Your job is to be a coach of coaches," UEFA technical director Andy Roxburgh told coach education specialists from throughout Europe. "The aim is to produce professionally competent coaches who, in turn, produce skilful players, creating successful teams. All of you here have a specialised role, and you have a very important job in football."

### Theory and demonstrations

Practical sessions were on the agenda in Portugal. Among them, Paulo Sousa, the former Portuguese star and UEFA pro licence-holder, worked along-

side Andy Roxburgh to illustrate the practical role of coach educator. The Sporting Clube de Portugal Under-19 team and Portuguese national Under-19 squad provided the players for the demonstrations.

A forum on coach education was a major feature. Two national-team coaches preparing for EURO 2008 – Sweden's Lars Lagerbäck and Portugal's Luiz Felipe Scolari – were joined by the Football Association of Ireland's technical director, Packie Bonner, and the English Football Association's director of football development, Sir Trevor Brooking, for an in-depth discussion on issues affecting coach educators and coaching. Issues dealt with included

changes in the training of coaches over the last 20 years, the attitude towards coaching in the participants' countries, the requirements needed to raise the standard of coaching to a new level, and the main things that a coach needs to know to cope with the coaching job at the highest level.

### Discussion groups

The coach educators met in discussion groups to debate a series of questions, such as the problems facing coach educators today, innovations in the sector and specialised coach education programmes within the associations. The coach educators highlighted, among other things, recruitment difficulties and a lack of coach education literature as some of the problem areas. Nevertheless, they stressed the important work that is being undertaken, including the use of grassroots football as a vehicle to fight obesity and other social problems, monitoring the progress of young coaches to ensure that the next generation is of the best possible standard, and the use of modern technology, such as the internet, to enhance methods of training and education.

Pride of place was also given to UEFA's Portuguese hosts. Portuguese Football Federation president, Gilberto Madail, who is also a member of the UEFA Executive Committee, expressed pride at the work being done by Portugal's coaches and coach educators. In addition, legendary striker Eusébio gave his views on what makes a good coach. "It is someone who is able to talk to players and get the maximum out of them," Eusébio said. "The ability to communicate is essential."

"Your influence on the game, and your influence on developing coaches, is immense," was Andy Roxburgh's essential message to the coach educators. "You have the appreciation of the people that you work with, and of course of UEFA. You do a fantastic job on a day-to-day basis. So, although you are not in the headlines, please remember that you are extremely important to the development of football in general."



Group discussions allow more active participation.

Photos: Sportsfile



Architect  
Andrea Bassi  
presents the  
winning project.

UEFA-plivoods.ch



Photo: Bonger / G. Getty Images for UEFA

Germany won all three of their qualifiers for the European Women's Under-19 Championship against Russia, Hungary (pictured) and Romania.

# Meetings and other activities

## UEFA chooses its new administration building

**ON 29 APRIL, AT THE UEFA HEADQUARTERS IN NYON, A SPECIALLY APPOINTED JURY SELECTED, FROM THE FOUR PROPOSALS PRESENTED, THE DESIGN OF THE BASSI & CARELLA ARCHITECTS' FIRM FOR ITS NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.**

This building, to be constructed on a plot of land opposite the House of European Football, will enable UEFA to bring together some of its staff members who are currently based at different sites (see *uefadirect* No. 72).

The plans chosen make provision for a 6,000 m<sup>2</sup> building spread over four levels. Circular in shape, the new building meets high ecological and environmental standards. It will accommodate between 150 and 180 members of staff, and construction costs are estimated at CHF 34 million.

The next stage will be to launch an invitation to tender in order to find a construction firm. Then, in October, the plans will be submitted for enquiry. Construction will begin in February and should be completed by the end of March 2010.

### Draw in Blois

**The eight teams that will participate in the final round of the European Women's Under-19 Championship in France from 7 to 19 July are now known.**

Titleholders Germany have qualified and will be trying to hold on to their crown in the face of competition from France, who qualified automatically, the five other second qualifying round winners – Sweden, England, Scotland, Norway and Spain – and the best group runner-up, Italy. Five of the eight finalists were involved in the last edition in 2007: Germany, England, Spain, France and Norway.

A draw to determine the two final round groups will be held in Blois, in the Loire region where the tournament will be staged.



### Premiere in St Petersburg

UEFA's newest competition, the European Under-21 Futsal Tournament, has reached the end of its qualification phase.



The 28 participating teams were involved in many tight encounters in the seven qualifying mini-tournaments, with one group being decided on goal difference.

Russia, who qualified automatically, will host Slovenia, Ukraine, Spain, the Netherlands, Kazakhstan, Italy and Croatia in the final round. The tournament will be held from 8 to 14 December.

### Six teams book tickets to Brazil

**The European qualification phase of the Futsal World Cup has been completed.**

After the qualifying round, play-off matches determined which



A circular building to house part of the UEFA administration.

Photomontage Bassi & Carella



Spain and Italy, the two 2004 finalists, will compete in the World Cup in Brazil.



David Taylor, general secretary of UEFA, holds up the name of the association drawn by Risto Nieminen, chairman of the European Football Pool.

## Draw for the UEFA Intertoto Cup

The first act of the 2008 UEFA Intertoto Cup took place at the UEFA headquarters in Nyon on 21 April, when the draw for the three rounds of the competition was held.



This will be the final edition of this competition, which will be abolished as part of the restructuring of the UEFA club competitions. This

initial draw (see uefa.com) only provides a rough idea of the matches ahead, since the participating clubs' identities is not yet known, with most national championships still in progress when the draw was made.

First round matches will be played on 21/22 June (1st leg) and 28/29 June (2nd leg), second round games on 5/6 July (1st leg) and 12/13 July (2nd leg) and the third round on 19/20 July (1st leg) and 26/27 July (2nd leg). The 11 third round winners will enter the UEFA Cup at the second qualifying round stage.

The draws for the first and second qualifying rounds of the UEFA Champions League and the first qualifying round of the UEFA Cup will be held at the UEFA headquarters in Nyon on 27 June.

## Olympic tournament in Beijing

2008 is not only the year of the European Championship, but also of the Olympic Games in Beijing, with football tournaments involving 16 men's and 12 women's teams.

The draws for the group stage of these two tournaments took place in Beijing on 20 April. The men's tournament line-up is as follows:

**Group A:** Ivory Coast, Argentina, Australia, Serbia.

**Group B:** Netherlands, Nigeria, Japan, United States.

**Group C:** China PR, New Zealand, Brazil, Belgium.

**Group D:** Korea Republic, Cameroon, Honduras, Italy.

The four European teams qualified last year at the final round of the European Under-21 Championship.

In the women's tournament, World Cup holders Germany will be in the same group as Brazil, whom they beat in the final of the last World Cup. Germany, along with Sweden and Norway, booked their places in Beijing through their performances in that tournament.

The groups are as follows:

**Group E:** China PR, Sweden, Argentina, Canada.

**Group F:** Korea DPR, Nigeria, Germany, Brazil.

**Group G:** Norway, United States, Japan, New Zealand.

In April, the FIFA Executive Committee entrusted the German Football Association with the task of hosting the next Under-20 Women's World Cup. The tournament will take place in 2010 and will serve as a dress rehearsal for the Women's World Cup being staged in the same country a year later.

## Grassroots football flourishes in the Balkans

Open Fun Football Schools (OFFS), created by the Danish Cross Cultures Project Association (CCPA), aim to bring together young people of different cultures in the Balkans and Caucasus to promote tolerance, integration and cohesion, while at the same time helping them discover the joys of football. With the financial backing of UEFA, the schools also contribute to the development of grassroots football in this part of Europe.

The OFFS will this year enter its 11th season and, during his preparations, the project director, Anders Levinsen, has witnessed a real boom in grassroots football in the region. "I have

→ European teams would be heading for Brazil to play in the final round of the competition from 30 September to 19 October. In fact, the line-up is more or less the same as at the World Cup in China four years ago, when Europe was represented by Spain (the eventual winners), Italy, Portugal, the Czech Republic and Ukraine. This time, Europe has one additional final round place, with Russia the only newcomers to the European delegation.

The draw to split the 20 finalists into four groups will take place in Brasilia on 10 July.



## Ball for the final unveiled in Vienna

A special version of the EUROPASS, the ball designed by adidas for EURO 2008, will be used in the final. Known as the EUROPASS gloria, it was unveiled in Vienna by the UEFA president, Michel Platini, and Grete Laska, deputy mayor of Vienna.



Maceo Rigters of the Netherlands gets the better of the Serbian keeper in the final of the European Under-21 Championship – both teams will compete in the Olympic tournament.

Getty Images



Olympic tournament draw in Beijing.

Jin/AP/Getty Images



## News from Brussels

For those attending EURO 2008 this summer, UEFA and the European Commission have produced a guide full of practical information about supporters' rights.

UEFA is going to great lengths to ensure that the final round of the European Football Championship is a unique, emotional but trouble-free experience for all involved.

In this context, UEFA President Michel Platini and the European Commissioner for Consumer Protection, Meglena Kuneva, agreed that supporters attending matches in Switzerland and Austria between 7 and 29 June needed more information about their rights.

A mini-guide, entitled *Know before you go: your rights are our goal*, has been produced to make sure everyone benefits from the same information. *What can I do if I lose my ticket? What should I do if my flight is cancelled? What are my rights if I need urgent medical treatment?* All in all, the guide provides ten practical tips and answers to travellers' most common questions.

The free Europe Direct helpline will also be available to supporters throughout the tournament. By dialling 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11 from anywhere in the EU or Switzerland, they will receive support from operators who can provide valuable information about protecting and exercising their rights.

Michel Platini has said that he is "thrilled by this European Commission and UEFA initiative, which will help fans from every country make the most of their time in Austria and Switzerland."

The guide is available for free from the official tournament website, [www.euro2008.com](http://www.euro2008.com), and from the fan embassies' site, [www.fanguide2008.net](http://www.fanguide2008.net).

visited FYR Macedonia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia over the past few months. I have seen a new, open and dedicated attitude towards the development of grassroots football everywhere I have been and I am convinced that this important development must be considered a result of the persistent and dedicated work of UEFA."

Anders Levinsen gives a few examples to illustrate his point: "During my trips I always take the time to visit small and local grassroots football clubs. When I came to one place, two years ago, I only saw a big green river bank where the cows were grazing. There was neither a playground nor a football club in the village. Today, the local authorities have transformed the area into a little stadium with a small stand. Our school leader organised a football club with children, coaches and equipment from the Open Fun Football Schools. Today the club has 180 children, including three girls' teams. I spoke to a group of parents who explained how they have formed a parents' committee and how this committee supports the local coaches and club in different ways. They also told me how some of the children walk five kilometres from neighbouring villages, four times a week, to play!"

Anders Levinsen was equally impressed by measures taken by the Moldovan Football Association to set up 35 regional associations to help

develop grassroots football. In Georgia the national FA has set itself a goal of training 400 coaches to C level, and similar initiatives are under way in most other associations in these countries.

"Grassroots football has started rolling," says Anders Levinsen. "We now have awareness, dedication, and many more people and activities in the field of grassroots football. And one of the most important developments that I've seen is that the national associations have started to care. I have seen that they have strategies and plans and I have also experienced how they are implementing these plans step by step. Consequently, it seems to me that grassroots football is no longer something that is just talked about."

### Ex-footballers at Barcelona congress

**The second congress of the Sports Group of European Former Football Players Associations (EFPA) on 11/12 April in Barcelona was a great success, bringing together representatives of over 40 associations from across Europe.**

Under the heading of "Keep playing", the congress studied and discussed the role of ex-players and the future of football. "Veterans must →



John Toshack, Emilio Butragueno, Carlos Reixach and José Angel Iribar during a round-table session at the EFPA congress in Barcelona.



Angel María Villar Llona (third from right) represented UEFA at the EFPA Congress.



The UEFA administration team played in a Special Olympics match in Nyon.

→ be a model for the young, promoting the values of football, which is not just a sport, but also a medium to further fair play, comradeship, integration and respect," said the president of the EFPA, Ramon Alfonseda, who also made an appeal for solidarity. It was in the context of his appeal that participants were introduced from organisations such as the Homeless World Cup and Open Fun Football Schools (OFFS).

Presentations and round-table discussions filled the two-day congress, at which UEFA was represented by one of its vice-presidents, Angel María Villar Llona, president of the Spanish Football Federation. Many former football legends contributed to the debates, including Alfredo Di Stéfano, John Toshack, Emilio Butragueño, Carlos Reixach, Pepe Santamaría and José Angel Iribar.

## Score for the Red Cross

**Until 6 July, every one of the 16 EURO 2008 finalists' supporters can buy goals for their favourite team at the website [www.scorefortheredcross.org](http://www.scorefortheredcross.org).**

The aim of the campaign is to raise funds for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to support its activities in benefit of landmine victims in Afghanistan. Each goal costs EUR 1 and you have to buy at least seven goals at a time. The team rankings are updated after each donation. To create a level playing field for the different sized countries, the rankings take into account not only the number of goals bought but also the number of inhabitants. In other words, the title of "most humanitarian team" will go to the country with the highest number of goals per inhabitant.



As part of the campaign, UEFA itself will donate EUR 4,000 for every real goal scored during the tournament in Austria and Switzerland, with the donation rising to EUR 5,000 for every goal scored by Cristiano Ronaldo, the campaign ambassador.

## Declaration on the specificity of sport

On 24 April, UEFA President Michel Platini welcomed the French and Dutch Ministers for European Affairs, Jean-Pierre Jouyet and Frans Timmermans, as well as representatives of the main team sports federations, at the House of European Football in Nyon.

A joint declaration was published at the conclusion of this meeting, which was also attended by the French State Secretary for Sports, Bernard Laporte.

It underlines the great benefits that sport brings to society and the need to recognise "the central role and autonomy of sports federations in the organisation, regulation and promotion of their respective sports." The declaration also stresses the need to give these federations the necessary legal security to be able to fulfil their statutory tasks.



Jean-Pierre Jouyet, Michel Platini, Frans Timmermans and Bernard Laporte.

Three main areas are highlighted: training (sporting and vocational, protection of young people, encouragement), governance of clubs (licensing or management control system) and players' agents (regulation of the profession).

In conclusion, the sports federations are invited to present concrete proposals that can be jointly examined during the French presidency of the European Union.

## Eighth Special Olympics Football Week

**Special Olympics held its eighth annual European football week from 3 to 10 May.**

Some 50,000 players with intellectual disabilities took part in this football week in more than 50 countries throughout Europe/Eurasia. This year the focus was on community-based initiatives with a special emphasis on the recruitment and training of volunteer coaches, and on bringing young people with and without disabilities together to increase awareness and tolerance.

As a supporter of Special Olympics football development projects, UEFA also participated in the football week: a UEFA staff team contested a unified match (involving players with and without disabilities) with Special Olympics players on 5 May at the Colovray stadium in Nyon.

## ANDORRA



### Alàs sports centre open

On 29 March, the Andorran Football Federation officially opened the Alàs sports and technical centre, the first centre it has owned.

Construction of the centre was made possible by the UEFA HatTrick programme and the FIFA Goal project. First and foremost, it will further the development of grassroots and youth football. We will also be able to increase very rapidly the number of youth sports events, including tournaments, camps and training courses, all of which will have a direct, positive impact on football promotion.

Subsequently, clubs in Andorra and the region will also benefit from the modern sports facilities and give our sport a boost.



A sports centre that will boost Andorran football development.

The lack of training centres has been a major obstacle in raising the level of Andorran teams.

With the construction of the Alàs sports and technical centre, the Andorran Football Federation has achieved one of its primary objectives.

*Teresa Figueras*

## AUSTRIA



### Successful referee campaign

In March, the Austrian Football Association (ÖFB) unveiled its referee project "Karriere mit Pfiff" (working with a whistle or, more idiomatically, "a career with a kick"). By means of a campaign designed to enhance the image of refereeing, the association hopes to encourage as many sporty, dynamic youngsters as possible – girls and boys alike – to follow referee training courses from the age of 15.

May was "referees' month" for the young hopefuls, with refereeing courses held throughout the country from 3 to 31 May. The ÖFB is looking for smart individuals who, as well as having an athletic disposition, will bring social skills, respect and a human touch onto the pitch.

There are currently 2,500 active referees and assistant referees in Austria, which puts the association about 1,000 short if it is to cover all Austrian clubs. The scarcity is most obvious in youth circles, which suffer as a result. Since nurturing young talent is a top priority for all clubs, the ÖFB hopes to resolve the problem with the help of its "Karriere mit Pfiff" project. "Without well-trained referees, orderly football matches are not possible," explains the ÖFB's president, Friedrich Stickler, emphasising the importance of the campaign.

"The key to the campaign is not the rejuvenation of refereeing, but the portrayal of referees in a positive light," says Gerhard Kapl, chairman of the ÖFB's referees committee. As long as the referee manages his games with farsightedness and perspective, and behaves as a skilled, respectful and fair sportsman among sportsmen, it is the best job in the world. "The path to becoming a referee was sometimes rocky and thorny, but ambition and a love of sport always prevailed" according to FIFA referee Fritz Stuchlik from Vienna.

The prospects for referees to climb the ladder are excellent, with the potential to progress from grassroots to amateur, all the way to professional level. "Being a referee is one of the most interesting jobs imaginable," says 43-year-old Konrad Plautz from Tirol, who has been appointed by the UEFA Referees Committee as one of 12 EURO 2008 referees.

By the end of April, an impressive 1,200 had already signed up at the website [www.schiri.at](http://www.schiri.at) and the campaign generated much discussion and praise at the UEFA referees' workshop in Regensburg.

*Peter Klingmüller*



EURO 2008 referee Konrad Plautz is an avid supporter of the Working with a Whistle campaign.

## ARMENIA



### First sponsorship agreement

The Football Federation of Armenia (FFA) has signed a sponsorship agreement with STAR over this season's Armenian premier league.

This is the first time in Armenian football history that the FA has concluded a sponsorship agreement with a private company. The deal was signed by the FFA president, Ruben Hayrapetyan, and the chief executive of STAR, Vahan Qerobyan.

The 2008 league will therefore now be known as the STAR Armenian Championship.

*Tigran Israelyan*



A sponsorship first for the Football Federation of Armenia.

## AZERBAIJAN



### Ball festival in Ganja city

In accordance with the 2005-2015 state programme for football development in Azerbaijan endorsed by the president of the republic, Ilham Aliyev, the FA of Azerbaijan (AFFA) has set up various projects aimed at popularising football in the country, spotting talented young players, and developing football for children.

Following the "ball festival" held in Baku, in conjunction with McDonald's, on 16 December last year, the AFFA decided to organise similar juggling tournaments in other regions. Hence, on 12 April, a "ball festival" took place on Heydar Aliyev square in Ganja. It was a joint AFFA-Hyundai Azerbaijan project which also enjoyed the support of the Ganja city government. About 270 under-14s, not only from Ganja, but also from other Azeri regions, took part, as documented by ATV sports commentator Sanan Shafizade.

The AFFA's general secretary, Elkhon Mammadov, kicked off the ceremony: →

→ "Our main aim in organising such projects is to spot and nurture talented young footballers. As you know, the AFFA is currently paying for the winner of the first 'ball festival', Rahman Shabanov, to study with the youth team at FC Arsenal Kyiv in Ukraine. I wish everyone taking part in the festival the best of luck."

After a brief explanation of the rules, the children started juggling. According to the festival regulations, the three best participants – Sarhan Nuriyev, Sarhan Zeynalov and Jabbar Mammadov – battled it out for first place at the end of the competition. Sarhan Nuriyev eventually took the title. Azeri deputies Rauf Aliyev, Vidadi Mammadov and Asef Hajiyev, who helped out at the award ceremony, all expressed their gratitude to the organisers. The AFFA and Hyundai Azerbaijan presented the winners with prizes.



The ball festival participants.

Akif Alakbarov, a deputy of the mayor of Ganja, thanked the AFFA for holding this tournament in Ganja, and Rauf Aliyev, AFFA vice-president and member of the state national assembly, rated the event very highly: "As mentioned, all the necessary conditions have been created for the development of football in Azerbaijan and the AFFA is thus able to organise such projects. We hereby declare that the "ball festival" will become a regular event and will involve all regions of the republic. We promise that we will try to support to every talented footballer."

The jury was composed of Novil Ismayilov, Honored Worker of Physical Training and Sports, Master of Sports of the USSR and football coach; Muzaffer Gasimov, Honored Worker of Physical Training and Sports; Zahid Askarov, president of the Western Regional Football Federation; Rauf Aliyev, AFFA vice-president and member of the national assembly; Akif Alakbarov, a deputy of the mayor of Ganja; and Mahammad Mammadov, referee observer and a referee at the festival.

Mikayil Quluyev

## BELGIUM



### Country mourns Constant Vanden Stock

Constant Vanden Stock, honorary chairman of RSC Anderlecht, passed away on Saturday 19 April at the age of 93, in the year of his club's centenary. Vanden Stock had been chairman of RSC Anderlecht for 25 years before handing the reins to his son Roger in 1996.

Constant Vanden Stock's passing is an immeasurable loss for Anderlecht and the whole Belgian football family. He was a visionary and forerunner in numerous fields, as demonstrated by the construction of the RSC Anderlecht stadium in the 1980s and 1990s, which was revolutionary at the time and has borne Vanden Stock's name to this day.

After having embraced a football career that saw him don the strips of RSC Anderlecht and Union Saint-Gilloise from 1932 to 1943, Vanden Stock subsequently dedicated himself full time to the brewery left to him by his father. He proved to be a talented businessman, turning it into one of the biggest breweries in Belgium. Nevertheless, the football bug had bitten and Vanden Stock decided to return to his first love.



Constant Vanden Stock on his 90th birthday alongside his son, Roger.

He again assumed various functions in the field of football before becoming Belgian national team coach in September 1958. He coached the side for ten years, leading them through 68 international matches and clocking up some impressive results, including the Red Devils' 5-1 victory over the Brazil of Pelé and Garrincha at the Heysel stadium.

In 1969, Constant Vanden Stock went back to Anderlecht for good, becoming club chairman in 1971. He held this position for the next 25 years, during which time he led the club through a golden era that brought them ten national championships, seven Belgian Cups, four Belgian Super Cups, two UEFA Cup Winners' Cups, one UEFA Cup and two UEFA Super Cups.

This avalanche of trophies made Constant Vanden Stock, who was also honorary first vice-president of the Belgian Football Association and had been a member of the association's Executive Committee and Sports Committee for many years, the most decorated chairman in the history of Belgian football. He will doubtless retain this title for many years to come.

Pierre Cornez

## BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA



### Licensing process under the spotlight

The main event last month was a seminar organised by the Football Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina for newly elected members of the licensing commission. A UEFA representative also attended the seminar, the aim of which was to explain the rules governing the club licensing process for the 2008/09 season.

The commission's rules and various duties were presented by the federation's



Enez Crnalic (5) and Bosnia-Herzegovina could not get the better of Spain, European and world futsal champions.

director for licensing, Talat Sulejmani, and the UEFA representative. "We talked about different situations that we have already gone through in previous seasons and that might happen again, in order to help the members of the commission in their work," said Talat Sulejmani.

The Bosnia-Herzegovina futsal team unfortunately failed to qualify for the World Cup in Brazil, which is to be played in October this year. In play-offs with reigning world and European champions Spain, Tomislav Curcic's squad lost both their matches. In Toledo, Spain, the hosts won 9-1 and, although Bosnia-Herzegovina fared slightly better in the attractive return match in Visoko, they were still beaten 4-0.

The Under-17s have started their preparations for the first round of qualifiers for the 2008/09 European Championship. Velimir Stojnic's squad is in Group 3 with the Czech Republic, Hungary and Georgia. They have already played two preparatory matches against Montenegro in Ulcinj, both of which ended 0-0.

Finally, the Radnik futsal team from Bijeljina won the Bosnia-Herzegovina Cup. They beat Banovici on penalties in the final, after the match was stuck at 3-3 at the end of normal time.

Fuad Kravac

## CROATIA



### Sad day for Croatian football

The Croatian Football Federation recently experienced the saddest day in its history. In a first division home match for FC Zadar, Hrvoje Cusic, who was also a member of the Croatian Under-21 team, suffered a severe injury. After a collision on the touchline, he fell and hit his head on a fence that separated the spectators from the pitch. Despite the severity of the accident, initial medical treatment gave reason to hope for a successful recovery. The entire country clung to this hope. Unfortunately, it was in vain. With Hrvoje Cusic's death, a young life has been lost; the life of a player who had every chance of a great football career. The tragedy has raised the question of safety and security at all facilities with fences around their pitch.



This tragic loss comes not long after another accident, in which Croatian international Eduardo da Silva was badly hurt in a league match for Arsenal FC. The brutal tackle and severe leg fracture was broadcast by numerous TV stations. Along with the physical pain suffered, Eduardo da Silva was also denied a great chance of playing in EURO 2008, which he wanted more than anything. His absence from the competition is a great blow to the Croatian national team as a whole. During the qualifying competition, his eight goals contributed greatly to the country's overall success.

In other news, a new sports act passed by the Republic of Croatia regulates the question of transforming professional clubs into joint stock companies. The first club affected is HNK Hajduk Split. The procedure is being followed and the outcome looked forward to with great interest. This new law also represents a significant change concerning the status clubs have had so far. New club members are signing up, because only they will be able to buy stocks.

The Croatian Football Federation continues to work with football clubs founded by Croats abroad. The second European championship organised for these clubs will be contested in Gothenburg by qualifiers Croatia Berlin, Croatia Nurnberg and Croatia Weiblingen from Germany, Dinamo Ottakring from Vienna, Croatia Villefranche from France, the hosts, Velebit of Gothenburg, and a team of Burgenland Croats from Austria, who are the reigning champions. Final competitions for a team from Switzerland are in progress.

The Croatian Football Federation also organises a lot of grassroots activities and football in schools. The new sport act encourages the development of sports in primary schools, which is of great interest to the FA. Good relations have been established with the Croatian Schools Sports Association and joint project negotiations are currently in progress.

Finally, this year is also a significant one in the development of beach soccer. The FA is preparing to construct several beach soccer pitches in accordance with FIFA rules, which will enable the country's first official competitions in this new, increasingly popular domain.

*Ante Pavlovic*

## ENGLAND



### Capello supports FA's work in Africa

England coach Fabio Capello paid a whistle-stop visit to Lesotho in April to raise awareness of The Football Association's (FA) work in Africa through the UEFA-CAF Meridian Project and to support the charity Kick 4 Life which uses football to raise HIV and AIDS awareness.

As part of The FA's commitment to helping develop football in each of its Africa partner countries – Lesotho, Botswana and Malawi – it has decided to focus its efforts over the next three years on providing quality coaching for school teachers and community coaches to give schoolchildren a better football experience.

Capello looked on as FA coaches Geoff Pike and Peter Ford delivered an FA Level One coaching course involving schoolteachers and pupils.

*"This is a worthwhile scheme and I feel it is important I'm seen not only on TV but*

*also on the pitch supporting serious and worthwhile projects like this one,"* said Capello.

*"It is really good to be here, to see the children play and to see the English coaches train local coaches to do a job that will be very important and will bear fruit a bit further down the line."*

The English FA's International Development Programme aims to deliver at least two projects a year to its trio of partner associations, and workshops have been offered in areas such as administration and refereeing.

But The FA has also lent its assistance to raising public awareness of HIV and AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa, which has been ravaged by the disease – in Lesotho an estimated 23% of the population, including almost 18,000 children, are HIV positive.

The England manager, who was accompanied on the trip by The FA's head of National Teams, Ray Clemence, watched sides from 12 local schools battle it out in a specially arranged seven-a-side tournament to promote the 'Test Your Team' campaign, which included onsite HIV education and testing between games.

Capello and Clemence sat in as a young boy was tested for HIV. The boy faced a nervous wait but, after a counselling session with a doctor, the test came back negative. *"It was tense,"* Capello admitted. *"We had a few very long moments in that tent waiting for the outcome of the test. Fortunately the test was negative and everyone was very relieved. This was a very good experience, very good for our soul because it makes you understand what hardships there are in the world."*

*"Football must concern itself with these things and must help. Football is a rich sport and it has an obligation to put its wealth at the service of people who can help the poor and make a difference."*

*Nada Grkinic*



Fabio Capello looking relaxed with the young footballers of Lesotho.

## GERMANY



### Foundation's first cultural event

On 25 March, the German Football Association's cultural foundation, which was established just last year, held its first public event. Under the slogan "Football Legends", it offered a whole host of recollections and anecdotes surrounding Germany's 1966 World Cup team.

The evening was opened by the president of the German FA (DFB), Theo Zwanziger, who spoke of the importance of the cultural foundation: "Germany played its first international 100 years ago. Back then, football was often ridiculed and considered a commoners' sport. Nowadays we enjoy huge social and cultural recognition. Football is a big part of millions of people's lives."

Eleven of the 22 players who lined up for Germany in the 1966 World Cup

gave interviews at the event at Freiburg's concert hall: Uwe Seeler (captain), Hans Tilkowski, Willi Schulz, Helmut Haller, Siggie Held, Friedel Lutz, Bernd Patzke, Klaus-Dieter Sieloff, Wolfgang Paul and Werner Krämer. Unsurprisingly, the "Wembley goal" dominated discussions as the relaxed, good-humoured ex-internationals debated the 3-2 in the final with the benefit of 42 years' hindsight. Uwe Seeler, for example, joked with goalkeeper Hans Tilkowski: "If you had caught the ball, there would have been nothing to debate."

An important project for the cultural foundation will be the construction of the football museum, which the DFB treasurer, Horst R. Schmidt, is currently working on. Schmidt told those at the Freiburg event about the museum plans, and about his activities in the Organising Committee for the World Cup in South Africa. This is the tenth time since 1974 that he has been involved in the preparations for a FIFA World Cup.

Maximilian Geis

the association worked with the foundation to hold a charity event that raised a total of EUR 31,000. In addition, children from the foundation attend every Israel Under-21 match.

The IFA has renovated the lampposts in the missile-stricken city of Sderot and even held the draw for the Israel State Cup quarter-final fixtures in the city. The association also held a match between the Israeli team and a team compiled of foreign league stars in Ashkelon, dedicated to the southern towns located on the front line.

The IFA helps and supports athletes from the Special Olympics, an international organisation that includes more than 2.3 million intellectually disabled athletes from 169 countries worldwide. The IFA also views football as an arena to be used to create a better Israeli society, one that is free of violence. As such, the football association has initiated legislation that prohibits violence in football stadiums in order to make them a pleasant place in which people can enjoy themselves.

Nimrod Suzin

## HUNGARY



### Budapest hosts EURO 2008 contenders

Although Hungary failed to qualify for the upcoming European Championship final round, the football supporters of the country nevertheless have a chance to watch their team take on Greece and Croatia just before the start of the summer's great event.

On 24 May, the Hungarian team will line up against Greece, a team that last visited Budapest in November. As they did six months ago, the teams will play (more than likely to a full house) in the Ferenc

Puskás stadium. A week later Croatia, another team preparing for EURO 2008, will arrive in the capital to play the Magyars at Újpest FC's Szusza Ferenc stadium.

In these matches the national team will be led by new head coach Erwin Koeman. The 47-year-old Dutchman, who won the 1988 European Championship, previously managed clubs Waalwijk and Feyenoord in his home country.

"He is the right person for the job and it is the right time, before the FIFA 2010 World Cup qualifying campaign," said István Kisteleki, president of the Hungarian FA, when Koeman's appointment was announced in April.

Márton Dinnyés



A quality seal for the Israel Football Association.

## KAZAKHSTAN



### New youth tournament

Besiktas of Istanbul have won the Cup of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Having maintained a clean sheet throughout this international youth tournament, the Turkish side took home the main prize of USD 10,000. Worthy opponents in the final, CSKA Moscow were runners-up.

The tournament, held in Almaty from 25 to 30 April, was contested by the Under-17 teams of the following football schools: Zenit, CSKA and Spartak Moscow (Russia), Besiktas (Turkey), Ole Brazil (Brazil), ADO Den Haag (Netherlands), Dinamo Minsk (Belarus) and Tsesna (Kazakhstan).

The teams were divided to two groups of four for a group stage, which was

## ISRAEL



### Social responsibility activities

The Israel Football Association (IFA) has become one of only three associations in Europe to have earned the ISO 9001 international business standard. The decision to apply the standard at the IFA was made to improve managerial processes and the services provided during the football matches of the various Israeli national teams.

This year, the IFA is supporting Israel's Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation as part of its contribution to society. In April,



Istvan Kisteleki, president of the Hungarian Football Federation, and the new national coach, Erwin Koeman.



The youth players of Besiktas are triumphant.

followed by play-offs. The final was held at the Almaty central stadium, where the Kazakhstan national team plays its matches. Besiktas beat CSKA 3-1 in front of 16,000 spectators.

*"One of the main tasks set by Nursultan Nazarbayev, the president of our country, is to care about the young generation, to bring up dignified citizens of sound body and mind. And sport is our principal assistant in this. It is sport that helps to draw teenagers away from the destructive influence of the streets, drug addiction, smoking and alcohol. Sport teaches them to achieve goals; it teaches them to overcome not only their competitors but also themselves, and to temper their spirits. And football is rightfully considered the most popular sport. Young people can learn to win not only alone but also in a team. Development of youth, mass football is one of the top priorities of the Football Federation of Kazakhstan. We cannot count on great wins on the international stage in future if we do not create the right conditions for our young athletes. The making of champions starts in the yard, at school and in playgrounds,"* said Adilbek Dzhaksybekov, president of the Football Federation of Kazakhstan.

Alexandr Keplin

## LATVIA



### Baltic Cup turns 80

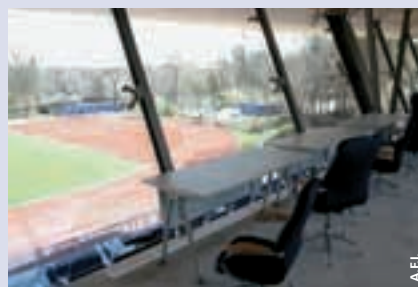
At the beginning of June, three Baltic Under-21 sides will meet in the 80th anniversary edition of the Baltic Cup. The cup is played every two years, rotating between Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania. This year Latvia will host the tournament in the new Jurmala stadium, the Daugava stadium and the Skonto stadium.

The Baltic Cup started in 1928, in Tallin, Estonia, and was first won by the Latvian

side. In total, Latvia has won the cup 19 times, Lithuania 16 and Estonia 8. During the Soviet era, Belarus also participated on occasion, but never won. The last Baltic Cup was played in 2005, having been postponed in 2007. The 2008 Baltic Cup will span four days, from 29 May to 1 June. The opening match will be played by the Latvian and Estonian Under-21s in the new Jurmala stadium.

In other news, the Latvian Football Federation has decided to create its first ever national beach football team with the help of its general sponsor, Inko Brokeri.

Martins Hartmanis



The new Jurmala stadium will host its first international match as part of the Baltic Cup.

## LIECHTENSTEIN LFV

### Association annual general meeting

The Liechtenstein Football Association held its annual general meeting on 31 March, which went off without a hitch, attended by guests from Liechtenstein and the surrounding regions, and Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder on behalf of UEFA.

The annual accounts and annual report were both approved and the president, Reinhard Walser; treasurer, Urs Gerner; and head of professional football, Rudolf Marxer were all unanimously re-elected, each for an additional two-year period.

The association president, Reinhard Walser, described the previous 12 months as *"an eventful year with some highs and some lows."* Walser went on to say, *"Never before have we managed to take*



The general meeting was efficiently led by president Reinhard Walser, pictured with the federation leaders.

*home two wins, that is seven points, in one year,"* adding that, at 118th, Liechtenstein had achieved a new personal best in the FIFA rankings. The president also talked about the country's club football, mentioned the European Under-21 Championship qualifiers and underlined the encouraging performance of the Under-19 side in its European qualifiers in Spain.

National coach and technical director, Hans-Peter "Bidu" Zaugg, reflected on his first year as Liechtenstein coach. *"I had expected a tough year. It was very positive that we managed two wins and a draw; a good sporting achievement,"* concluded Zaugg, who also took the opportunity to address the 7-1 defeat in Malta. *"It was unimaginable, and yet there were many reasons for it,"* according to Zaugg, who recalled the attitude and lack of preparation. He hopes to rectify the Malta performance at the end of May against Switzerland. *"We don't need to beat the Swiss,"* said Zaugg. It's not always the result, but rather the way in which the team performs, that makes a difference to their development. In the youth field, more individual training should be carried out and the players' weaknesses worked on.

On the side of the guests, Gerhard Mayer-Vorfelder took the floor. *"I get a homely feeling, being here,"* he said to the meeting. *"It is excellent that the association is taking part in international competitions. It is important that the players are challenged internationally, so that Liechtenstein can one day produce some 15 to 20 professionals."*

Judith Frommelt

## MALTA



### A developing sector

Women's football in Malta has been steadily gaining in popularity since competitions in the country started to be organised. The national league and knock-out competition have been attracting a real following as more and more people turn up at the well laid out Luxol stadium where artificial turf improves the game for spectators and players alike.

The number of participating teams in the domestic league has now risen to nine, no doubt representing a good cross-section of the country.

Football in this category has also established a base at international level, as Malta now participates regularly in the World Cup, European Championship and UEFA Cup.

The Women's Football Committee of the Malta FA, headed by the association's vice-president, Ludovico Micallef, is instrumental in organising seminars, symposiums and technical and social activities →



D. Aquilina

Malta v Croatia in the European Women's Championship.

→ in order to keep boosting the image of the women's game on the island.

The committee also includes representatives from each club, as well as a technical consultant, Pierre Brincat, who is also national team coach.

Tournaments aimed at promoting the game at school level feature regularly on the women's calendar throughout the year. The upshot is that more and more girls are taking up the game, which should help to further develop this sector in Malta.

Alex Vella

## MOLDOVA



### Working session with regional presidents

Representatives of 28 of Moldova's 33 regional football associations recently came together for a working session with the Football Association of Moldova (FAM), headed by Pavel Cebanu (president), Mihai Anghel (vice-president), Nicolai Cebotari (general secretary) and Vasile Scurtul (federal inspector). The meeting was held in a relaxed atmosphere, giving each regional delegate the opportunity to have their questions answered by the national representatives.

During the meeting, Pavel Cebanu underlined the key role of the regional associations in football development in Moldova: "These regional associations are led by people who are passionate about football and want to promote the sport in the regions of our country. First and foremost, they must involve as many

people as possible, of all different ages, in football. They must also organise their championship, region's cup and junior and youth competitions. Another task is to renovate and build new playing fields. To this end, the FA of Moldova provides technical and financial assistance."

The meeting was officially drawn to a close with the presentation of certificates to the regional association presidents, confirming their affiliation to the FAM. Until 2006, only 12 regional associations had been affiliated to the FAM. Thanks, however, to the notable efforts of Vasile Scurtul, the national association's federal inspector who is in charge of the regional associations' activities, there are now 33. They are run by mayors or heads of local councils, thereby ensuring that football in the regions of Moldova is in safe, secure hands. Two more regional associations are to be set up in the near future.

Victor Daghi



Boris HAVENCO

President Pavel Cebanu (right) presents a membership certificate to the president of the Singerei regional association, Gheorghe Brasovschi.

## NORTHERN IRELAND



### Sponsorship for women's football

The popularity of girls' and women's football in Northern Ireland is at an all-time high – and, with all ages now getting involved in the game, it just shows that anything the boys can do, the girls can do too!

One local food company has been so impressed by the development of the game by the Irish Football Association (IFA) at grassroots and international level that it has decided to become the association's



IFA

Dynamic presentation of the new women's football sponsor.

official partner for girls' and women's football. Dale Farm will sponsor the various IFA initiatives at grassroots levels, including the First Kicks Soccer Academy, Soccer Roles, the girls' junior leagues, schools leagues and indoor competitions. In addition, the sponsorship includes international and domestic ties, with Dale Farm backing four regional leagues, a regional cup and a national league.

This is a major boost for women's football in Northern Ireland and the sponsorship will go a long way in helping both the Irish FA and the Northern Ireland Women's FA to continue developing the game at all levels.

The IFA's head of marketing and communications, Geoff Wilson, said: "Traditionally girls have had limited opportunities to play football, however over the last few years the Irish FA has been working hard to change tradition. Worldwide, women's football is the fastest growing sport and here in Northern Ireland we want to make sure that all girls and women are provided with an opportunity to become involved in the game."

"The IFA has established a professional and structured programme within schools, junior clubs and at international level, while the association, along with the NIWFA, is putting a lot of hard work into developing the domestic game. And with more and more girls coming into the game, this in turn is helping to raise the standard at club and international level. So, all in all the future looks bright for women's football in Northern Ireland and we are delighted to have Dale Farm on board as our official partner for girls' and women's football."

Alfie Wylie, the national women's coach, added: "The launch of Dale Farm's

sponsorship is a great boost for girls' and women's football at all levels and we are delighted to be associated with such a healthy product. This new partnership will certainly help to further develop the women's game in Northern Ireland."

Sara Booth, the IFA's women's football coordinator, said: "Within the last six years, the number of girls and women playing football has increased dramatically in Northern Ireland. The most significant development has been within post-primary schools, with almost 127 schools now providing opportunities for girls to play the sport. The acquisition of Dale Farm sponsorship is an exciting development for the game and it is fantastic to have a nutritious product associated with the healthy lifestyles that the IFA is currently promoting through girls' and women's football."

Sueann Harrison

## REPUBLIC OF IRELAND



### More opportunities for the students

Former Republic of Ireland international Kevin Moran recently helped launch the third-level colleges and universities football development plan.

The programme aims to incorporate football programmes into third-level education systems. The plan focuses on building structures primarily for the benefit of student footballers and provides clear guidance to the institutions on ways to achieve this overall goal. The plan also strives to improve the standard of competitions, increase the number of qualified coaches and develop links with external stakeholders.

The colleges and universities development programme was set up by the Football Association of Ireland (Republic of



John Delaney, chief executive of the Football Association of Ireland, ex-international Kevin Moran, and Packie Bonner, technical director (left to right) discuss the new programme.

Ireland), the Irish Football Association (Northern Ireland), the Colleges Football Association of Ireland, the Irish Universities Football Union and the Women's Soccer Colleges Association of Ireland. With the implementation of this programme students should have more opportunities to play football in their institutions and the prospect of playing in high-profile competitions and recreational events by 2010.

Fran Whearty

## ROMANIA



### Four centres for the coaches

The Romanian Football Association's coaching school has decided to ease the financial and human burden on the 94 coaches attending this year's special UEFA A licence courses.

The courses, both theoretical and practical, began on 10 March and will end on 15 December. All "pupils" have to come to the Romanian FA's headquarters for the theory part but, for the first time in the history of these courses, the 94 coaches have been split between four regional centres for the practical part and its evaluation, so that they need not travel so far.

Some would otherwise have to commute 500 or even 600km. As a result, the coaches from the western regions will go to Cluj-Napoca, the coaches from the east will go to Galati, those in the centre have been directed towards Targu Jiu, and those from the south will head to Bucharest. For each centre the coaching school has appointed three inspectors who will work with the coaches and be responsible for their final practical evaluations.

The practical section itself will be split into two parts: the above-mentioned work with the instructors and several days spent with teams led by UEFA pro-licence holders will form just one part. The other will be completed by each of the 94 coaches at teams based even closer to their homes. The 94 coaches will then all undergo their final examination in Bucharest on 15 December.

"We are doing our best to offer them the best conditions and facilities in each of these four centres. We will also appoint the best instructors. We expect the 94 coaches to be well prepared because they should represent the future candidates for the UEFA pro licence and the future coaches of the top Romanian teams and, why not, also be active with European teams," said Mircea Radulescu, director of the Romanian coaching school.

Paul Zaharia

## SWEDEN



### Women's league on the web

Since 1997 the Allsvenskan, the Swedish premier league, has been served by a sports information system that collects statistics and results in real time. The system (developed by the Swedish FA and Hego) delivers data for TV graphics, internet live scores, and official league statistics. The next league down, the Superettan, was added in 2000, as were internationals played at home.

As of the current 2008 season, the women's league or Damallsvenskan is also part of the information system. More and more women's games are broadcast on TV and the increasing need for accurate and reliable statistics prompted the Swedish FA to commit the necessary resources to extend the system to the women's league.

This means that fans can now follow every game in the Damallsvenskan live on the Swedish FA's website. Line-ups, shots at goal, free kicks, corners, cards, substitutions – it's all there.

"It's an important step forward for the Damallsvenskan to be able to offer TV, media and fans the same professional statistics that the men's league offers. This will be of great benefit to the women's league," says Jonas Nystedt, head of communications at the Swedish FA.

Andreas Nilsson





# Committee week in Nyon

21-25.4.2008



Photos: UEA, pivocebs.ch

# Communications

## Birthdays – Calendar

### Birthdays

First vice-chairman of the Media Committee, Sondre Kåffjord (Norway), celebrates his 60th birthday on 7 June and two referee observers reach the 50 landmark on 23 June: Vladimir Antonov (Moldova) and Leslie Irvine (Northern Ireland).

UEFA also wishes many happy returns to:

- Wilfried Gerhardt (Germany, 1.6)
- Ivaylo Ivkov (Bulgaria, 3.6)
- Klara Bjartmarz (Iceland, 3.6)
- George Courtney (England, 4.6)
- Rolf Haugen (Norway, 4.6)
- Alastair L. Cox (England, 4.6)
- Jean-Samuel Leuba (Switzerland, 4.6)
- Marie-Claire Maney (Northern Ireland, 4.6)
- Franz Wöhler (Austria, 5.6)
- Ludovico Micallef (Malta, 5.6)
- Jaap Uilenberg (Netherlands, 5.6)
- Leon Straessle (Switzerland, 6.6)
- Michael Joseph Hyland (Rep. of Ireland, 6.6)
- Theo Zwanziger (Germany, 6.6)
- Francesco Tagliente (Italy, 6.6)
- Ryszard Wojcik (Poland, 6.6)
- Stefano Braschi (Italy, 6.6)
- Lars-Åke Björck (Sweden, 7.6)
- Kenneth J. Hope (Scotland, 7.6)
- Michel Sablon (Belgium, 7.6)
- Sándor Berzi (Hungary, 7.6)
- Yury Dupanau (Belarus, 7.6)
- Johannes Scholtz (Netherlands, 8.6)
- Robert Anthony Boggi (Italy, 8.6)
- Bryan Drew (England, 8.6)
- Jesper Møller Christensen (Denmark, 9.6)
- Hans Bangerter (Switzerland, 10.6)
- Alun Evans (Wales, 11.6)
- Leonardo Grosso (Italy, 11.6)
- Kyros Georgiou (Cyprus, 11.6)
- Nathan Bartfeld (Moldova, 11.6)
- Thórir Hakonarson (Iceland, 11.6)
- Alain Courtois (Belgium, 12.6)
- Jørn West Larsen (Denmark, 12.6)
- Sergejus Slyva (Lithuania, 12.6)
- Arben Bici (Albania, 12.6)
- Roland Coquard (France, 13.6)
- Giulio Campanati (Italy, 15.6)
- Viacheslav Koloskov (Russia, 15.6)
- Pavel Mokry (Czech Republic, 15.6)
- Muhittin Bosat (Turkey, 15.6)
- Sabri Celik (Turkey, 16.6)
- Michael Joseph Maessen (Netherlands, 17.6)
- Stephen Thomas (England, 17.6)
- Markus Nobs (Switzerland, 17.6)
- Philippe Piat (France, 18.6)
- Hannelore Ratzeburg (Germany, 18.6)
- Gaios Darsadze (Georgia, 19.6)
- Brian Barwick (England, 21.6)
- Michel Platini (France, 21.6)
- Peter Peters (Germany, 21.6)
- Zoran Cvrk (Croatia, 21.6)
- Keith Stuart Hackett (England, 22.6)
- Zvi Rosen (Israel, 23.6)
- Georg Pangl (Austria, 23.6)
- Rene J. Temmink (Netherlands, 24.6)
- Emanuel Zammit (Malta, 24.6)
- Jean-Jacques Schonckert (Luxembourg, 24.6)
- João Rocha (Portugal, 24.6)
- Jeannette Saarinen (Finland, 24.6)
- Reinhard Walser (Liechtenstein, 25.6)
- Marcel Lica (Romania, 25.6)
- Foppe de Haan (Netherlands, 26.6)
- Barry W. Bright (England, 27.6)
- Sigurdur Hannesson (Iceland, 27.6)
- Wim Koevermans (Netherlands, 28.6)
- Ivan Borissov Lekov (Bulgaria, 29.6)
- Wolfgang Sowa (Austria, 29.6)
- Joan Laporta i Estruch (Spain, 29.6)
- Orhan Erdemir (Turkey, 29.6)

### Upcoming events

#### Meetings

##### 2.6.2008, Prague

Draw for the final round of the 2007/08 European Under-19 Championship

##### 27.6.2008, Nyon

Draw for the first and second qualifying rounds of the UEFA Champions League and for the first qualifying round of the UEFA Cup

##### 27-28.6.2008, Vienna

Executive Committee

##### 28.6.2008, Vienna

Meeting of presidents and general secretaries

#### Competitions

##### 7-29.6.2008 Austria and Switzerland

EURO 2008

##### 21/22.6.2008

UEFA Intertoto Cup: first round (first leg)

##### 28/29.6.2008

UEFA Intertoto Cup: first round (second leg)

### Communications

The Football Association of Albania's suspension, imposed in March, was lifted by FIFA and UEFA on 29 April.

### Obituary

**Lambros Adamou**, a member of the circle of former UEFA committee members, passed away on 4 April at the age of 72. Former general secretary of the Cyprus Football Association, Lambros Adamou chaired the UEFA Youth Committee from 1988 to 2000 and sat on the UEFA Youth and Amateur Football Committee from 2000 to 2002.

### Match agents

UEFA has issued three new licences to organise matches and tournaments to:

#### Victor Grove

9, Chemin de la Riaz  
1291 Commugny – Switzerland  
Tel./Fax: +41 22 776 3100  
vgrove@bluewin.ch

#### Benedict Hatton

Alexander Ross Limited  
10 Greycoat Place  
London SW1P 1SB – England  
Tel.: +44 207 960 6395  
Fax: +44 207 960 6100  
ben.hatton@alexanderross.net

#### Kamil Mammadov

AMMK-SPORTS Agency  
Suleyman Rustam 37/24  
1007 Baku – Azerbaijan  
Tel./Fax: +994 12 495 9985  
kamil@ammk-sports.az

### New publication

#### Le Football

This amusing but educational guide by Mathias Grueter and Mix & Remix, aimed at the clueless and connoisseurs alike, will help you (re-)discover everything there is to know about football past and present. It covers the history of football, its rules, football and the economy, and football in Switzerland, Europe and the rest of the world. A practical and very up-to-date work that lays the foundations for everyone to enjoy EURO 2008 to the full, this pocket guide is available in French and German.



Editions Loisirs et Pédagogie (LEP), En Budron B4a, Case postale 313, 1052 Le Mont-sur-Lausanne, Switzerland, tél.: +41 21 651 25 70; fax: +41 21 653 57 51, contact@editionslep.ch, www.editionslep.ch, CHF 14.

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