



Union des associations européennes de football



**Media Release**

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**Medien-Mitteilung**

## ***UEFA Champions League finalists announce Open Days for the media prior to the final in Gelsenkirchen***

The finalists of the UEFA Champions League have arranged, as has become the tradition in recent seasons, Open Days on which international media reporters will have opportunities to interview the coaching and playing staff prior to this season's final, to be played at the Arena AufSchalke in Gelsenkirchen on Wednesday 26 May 2004, kicking-off at 20.45 CET.

AS Monaco are, for administrative purposes, the 'home' team at the Arena AufSchalke. The club from the Principality has arranged its Media Open Day for Monday 17 May. Didier Deschamps and the players will be available for media activities as from 18.30 at the Stade Louis II in Monaco.

International media representatives who wish to attend the Open Day are urged to confirm their presence by fax to the AS Monaco Club Press Office and to indicate if they have any specific requests. The fax number is: +00 377+ 92 05 24 54.

Their opponents, FC Porto, have arranged their Media Open Day for two days later on Wednesday 19 May. Media representatives are welcome to attend a training session at 16.00 at the club's training complex. After the training session, at approximately 17.00, José Mourinho and the players will be available for media activities. Timings are local time: add one hour for CET. The training complex is some 15km from the stadium in Olival – Vila Nova de Gaia. The name of the complex is Centro de Treinos e Formação Desportiva Portuguesa.

Once again, media representatives are advised to inform the FC Porto Press Office by fax if they intend to be present at the Media Open Day, along with any specific interview requests, using +00 351+ 22 507 0552.

Media reporters are urged to make full use of the Media Open Days, as access to the teams may be severely restricted at other times during the teams' preparations for the final.

The two finalists have also made arrangements for their pre-match activities in Gelsenkirchen on Tuesday 25 May. Both Press Conferences, involving the head coach and two players, will take place at the Arena AufSchalke. The AS Monaco Press Conference has been scheduled for 11.00 and FC Porto's for 13.00.

FC Porto will be first on to the pitch at the Arena AufSchalke. They have arranged their pre-match training session for 17.00 on Tuesday 25 May, with AS Monaco taking the field at 18.30. Both sessions will be open to the Media but accreditations will be necessary. Matchday conditions will apply. In other words, pitch access will be strictly limited to accredited TV personnel and photographers. All other reporters will be able to watch from the Press Box.

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