



Practical exercises in Moldova.



A festive atmosphere at the Marek Wielgus tournament.

Assistance Preparing for HatTrick programmes from

THE EAST EUROPEAN ASSISTANCE BUREAU (EEAB) AND THE KIOSK PROGRAMME WILL HAVE BEEN PHASED OUT BY THE END OF JULY TO MAKE ROOM FOR A NEW ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME, HATTRICK, TO WHICH ALL UEFA MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS HAVE ACCESS. THE BROAD LINES WERE PRESENTED AT THE UEFA CONGRESS IN ROME.

The last courses in the Progress V cycle were therefore organised this spring. One such course took place in Chisinau, capital of Moldova, as Press Officer Vasile Vatamanu reports:

"From 16 to 19 June, the Football Association of Moldova hosted the fifth UEFA Progress Course for coaches and referees from Moldova. Altogether, 50 coaches and 25 referees took part in the event. UEFA committee members György Mezey (Hungary) and Josef Marko (Slovakia) presented interesting theoretical and practical sessions. The opinions of the course participants were unanimous - both lecturers had come to Chisinau well prepared, the content of the sessions was full, and, as a result, the Moldovan coaches and referees enriched their knowledge."

Moldova FA Vice-President Valentin Cojuhari, responsible for the course, said, "We are very grateful to UEFA for paying special attention to the FA of Moldova. I also want to thank the lecturers so very much for their very good presentations. For us, these courses have special significance, because only the best professionals have been coming to Moldova to run them."

"At the press conference organised right after the courses, the lecturers highlighted the good organisation of the Progress V courses."

In FYR Macedonia, a similar course brought together coaches and referees in the city of Ohrid. Press Officer Zoran Nikolovski reports:

"Some 40 participants from all over the country attended the Progress Course V for coaches, which was run by Wim Koevermans, head coach of the under-21 team of the Netherlands."

"Following on from last year's course, the participants were able to follow all the latest coaching developments in the youth sector."

"The course sequence continued immediately with the referees' course, involving 35 first and second division referees as well as the leaders of the Referees' Board of the FA of Macedonia. The main theme of the course was "Unifying refereeing in Europe", focussing on co-operation between the referee and his assistant referees."

"The course was run by Vladimir Sajn from Slovenia, a member of the UEFA Referees Committee. Both courses were very well organised, with the participants mixing nicely and getting the chance to visit many of the monuments in the ancient city of Ohrid."

Within the framework of Kiosk, the Polish FA (PZPN) received financial support from UEFA to organise its eighth Marek Wielgus Tournament, in which 22,340 under-11s, in 2,290 teams, took part. The first qualifying phase was organised in 49 regions of the country. The 98 winning teams (girls and boys) will be meeting up at summer camps organised by the PZPN to play in the second qualifying phase, which will determine which 16 teams will go through to the final at the beginning of September.



BELGIUM

Quality youth training

As part of the "Futurofoot" scheme, and in co-operation with several Belgian universities, the Belgian FA has launched "QIKFoot". The first results of a survey among the clubs will serve the first and second division clubs as a basis for assessing their strengths and weaknesses in the youth training sector, with a view to improving their programme.

The objectives of "QIKFoot" are multiple. The clubs have to be made aware of the need to develop talent.



To do so, they have to be encouraged to train young players at all levels within the club itself and to support youth coaches in the running of quality football education.

The survey revealed some quite surprising and significant figures. For example:

- 45.5% of clubs offer at least four youth training sessions a week;
- 90.9% of clubs have a technical director responsible for youth training who holds at least a UEFA B diploma;
- 69.7% have at least one qualified goalkeeper coach;
- 54.5% have a fitness and/or rehab coach;
- 51.5% have a physiotherapist attending training sessions and 39.4% have a physio at matches;
- 24.2% offer a school liaison officer;
- 18.2% have an artificial playing field;
- 19.7% of the players trained by a club make it into the first team.

A club training ranking table has been compiled according to different specific criteria. Heading the 2003 table are Germinal Beerschot Antwerpen, followed by KRC Genk and KSK Beveren.

François Vantomme



BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Football unites the country

Football has been the first sport to unite the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina. After many years of tough discussion, football clubs from the entity of the Republic of Srpska joined the Premier League last year, with the help of UEFA and FIFA. The new, united Premier