



ANDORRA
An agreement has been reached for referee exchanges between the FFF and FAF.

FAF



DON'T START
Rodin Foundation
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BELGIUM
The anti-smoking campaign is presented to the media.

PHOTO NEWS

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ANDORRA

Agreement for the referees

With the objective of improving the level of refereeing, the Andorran Football Federation has reached an agreement with the French Football Federation for exchanges referee in the domestic competitions.

This agreement was concluded on 15 May in the French locality of Castellauro, where the Midi Pyrénées Football League is based. The FFF was represented by Michel Vautrot, Referee Technical Director. The Andorran delegation was headed by General Secretary Tomás Gea.

The arrangement does not focus solely on referee exchanges between the two national associations, but also establishes support to raise the standard of refereeing in Andorra in general.

Within the framework of the agreement, one Andorran referee has already taken charge of a French second amateur division match between Carcassonne and Angoulême. The next exchange took place on 1 June, when French referee Jérôme Aurox handled the Andorran cup final between FC St. Coloma and UE St Julià.

Miquel Angel Quiñones



BELGIUM

Campaign against smoking

In order to enable young footballers to express themselves better on the pitch, the URBSFA, in collaboration with the national lottery, has launched a campaign for the safety and protection of young players. All youth teams from affiliated Belgian clubs will be given a safety kit to help them protect their players. This will benefit around 18,000 teams in all.

The URBSFA has also lent its official support to the Rodin Foundation, which actively campaigns against smoking. A national prevention campaign entitled "Ne commence pas - don't start" is to be launched. With the help of national coach Aimé Anthuenis, who is generously backing the campaign, an anti-smoking message will be broadcast in Belgian stadiums. The Finance Minister has emphasised his ministry's commitment to the fight against smoking. "Sport has an educational role and a structure that brings young people together. Sport should be used as a weapon against addiction-related problems. The state plays an active part by supporting

different campaigns in various sports such as football."

The URBSFA is proud to support and participate in this kind of campaign because it is not limited just to sports-related issues. Football has an educational and social role to play. This anti-smoking campaign was launched at the friendly international match between Belgium and Poland played at the King Baudouin Stadium on 30 April.

François Vantomme



BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Peace and Friendship Tournament

NS BiH President Jusuf Pusina was right when he suggested organising the 2003 international U17 Peace and Friendship Tournament. He was convinced that it would be very successful, and so it was. The tournament showed that there are many great football talents who are waiting to get noticed.

It was not easy to gather young players from five ex-Yugoslavian countries, especially in war-ravaged Bosnia & Herzegovina. Teams from Slovenia, Croatia, FYR Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro and two from Bosnia & Herzegovina took part in the tournament.

"As the title of the tournament suggests, our aim was to give young people an opportunity to make new friendships out of the football field, to exchange experiences and opinions", said Jusuf Pusina.

The teams were led by former, well-known players from ex-Yugoslavia, such as Josip Katalinski, Danijel Pirc, Svad Jasarevic and Velimir Stojnic (B&H), Ivan Gudelj (CRO), Dragan Vujovic (Serbia and Montenegro), Blazo Lazarevski (MAC) and Milos Rus (SLO). All of them concluded that a tournament like this was necessary, and they were also pleased that it had taken place in Bosnia & Herzegovina.

The tournament took place in three towns within the Federation of Bosnia & Herzegovina (Tuzla, Srebrenik and Banovici), while Ugljevik, a town within the Republic of Srpska, was host to one of the games.

The participating teams were divided into

two groups, A and B. Group A was won by Serbia and Montenegro, and Group B by Croatia. The final between the two group winners took place at the Tusanj stadium in Tuzla and was won by Serbia and Montenegro 2-1.

Best player of the tournament was Ivan Vukovic, and best goalkeeper was Aleksandar Kesic - both from Serbia and Montenegro. Best goal-getter was Kresimir Makarin from Croatia. The fair play trophy went to the first selection of Bosnia & Herzegovina, who received only one yellow card.

All the participants hope that this tournament will be traditional, and through NS BiH President Jusuf Pusina, they will ask UEFA to put this tournament on the European international calendar.

Fuad Krvavac



FINLAND

Pohjola Cup presents stars of tomorrow

One of the surest signs of Finnish summer is the annual Pohjola Cup. The Football Association of Finland (SPL) has staged the tournament for district teams since 1973 in different parts of the country. The Pohjola Cup is a very important scouting event, where 14-16 year-old boys and girls display their skills to regional and national team coaches. The tournament also serves as an educational event for young players.

This year's tournament was held in Rauma (14-15 year-old boys) and Ylivieska (14 and 16 year-old girls). Almost 1,000 players took part, some of whom will go on to form the core of the men's and women's senior national teams in the future. Tomorrow's stars play in the Pohjola Cup.

Almost every single player in the current Finnish senior national team has played in the Pohjola Cup. Old tournament statistics include names such as Jari Litmanen, Sami Hyypia and Mikael Forssell.



GERMANY
Left to right: Hans Werner Lauk, German Minister of Foreign Affairs, Holger Obermann, Ali Askar Lali and DFB General Secretary Horst R. Schmidt.

BONGARTS