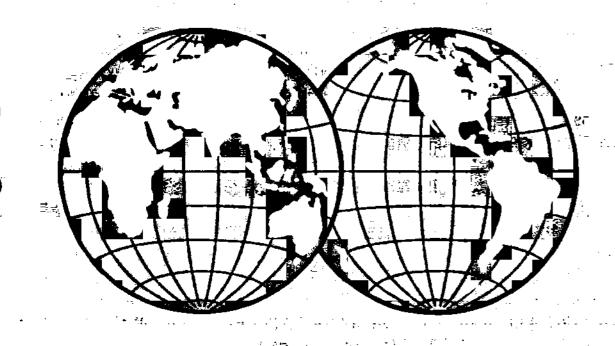
•FIFA
NEWS

April 1976 No. 155

English Edition



The official monthly publication of the

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

"FIFA-House", 11 Hitzigweg, 8032 Zurich, Switzerland

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FIFA-News

Monthly Editions:

ENGLISH/FRENCH/SPANISH/GERMAN

N.B.: The following letters have been used to the right of the title of each article to indicate the original language in which the article was written, so that readers will know which are original

articles and which are translations:

English: E French: F Spanish: S German: D

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Printed by:

Berichthaus, Zurich

Subscriptions:

Annual Subcription:

I: North Africa and Europe

Sw.frs. 30.-

II: Africa and Near East

Sw.frs. 35.-

III: Rest of the World

Sw.frs. 40.-

Special Folder:

Sw.frs. 8.-/ Air Mail: II: Sw.frs. 19.-; III: Sw.frs. 22.-

Payment should be made by bank order for the appropriate amount to the FIFA account with the Swiss Bank Corporation, Paradeplatz, Zurich. (No cheques please).

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Editorial

At its last meeting held on 6 April 1976 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the FIFA Executive Committee took three important decisions. They all concern problems or matters which the FIFA President, Dr. João Havelange, had promised in his electoral campaign, to bring new initiatives or to suggest solutions. The first two matters concern the Football Association of the People's Republic of China and the South African problem. The third decision is connected with the sponsorship for Project No. 1 (development of football in more than a hundred National Associations) and the World Youth Tournament.

After hearing the report from the ad hoc Committee for Legal Matters, and after a full discussion, the Executive Committee decided to suggest to the FIFA Congress to accept the Football Association of the People's Republic of China as a member of FIFA. Thus, the delegates at the FIFA Congress on 16 July 1976 in Montreal, Canada, prior to the opening of the 1976 Olympic Games will have the opportunity to solve the Red China problem, with which FIFA has been concerned at more or less regular intervals since 1958, when this Football Association's delegation walked out of the FIFA Congress because of the presence of the delegates from Taiwan (ROCFA).

The problem of the situation of the Football Association of South Africa was also dealt with at this meeting. The Executive Committee received a written report from the delegation — Harry H. Cavan (Northern Ireland), Dr. Juan Goñi (Chile) and Hiram Sosa (Guatemala) — on their findings and contacts which they made during a visit to South Africa immediately prior to the Executive Committee meeting in Rio. After receiving the very comprehensive report and after thorough discussion, the Committee decided to defer the whole problem to the Executive Committee meeting prior to Congress in Montreal on 14 July 1976. The problem has to be seen in connection with the new wording of Article 2 of the FIFA Statutes, adopted at the 1974 Congress in Frankfurt, Federal Republic of Germany and which now reads as follows:

"A National Association which tolerates, allows or organises competitions marked by discrimination or which is established in a country where discrimination in sport is laid down by law should not be admitted to FIFA or should be barred if it was. A National Association, when applying to take part in a competition, or deciding to organise one, shall give assurances to the Federation, that its provisions will be respected..."

It was decided to send a copy of the delegation's report to all National Associations, so that the delegates at Congress will be in the picture when this matter is discussed under the item "Questions from National Associations and all other matters the Executive Committee wishes to propose" on the agenda. It seems that there is great interest in South Africa for all football organisations which exist there at present to form a real national South African Football Association, grouping all races, which would receive the backing and actual support of the South African Government.

The realisation of Project No. 1 (world-wide football development) and Project No. 2 (the World Youth Tournament), proposed by FIFA President Dr. João Havelange, was largely connected with the decision of the Executive Committee to accept sponsorship, which would bring large sums of money to carry out these projects.

Project 1, the development of football in the field of administration, refereeing, coaching and sports medicine, had already been accepted at the autumn 1974 Executive Committee meeting and was slightly modified at subsequent meetings during 1975, as far as the planning and carrying out of the project was concerned. The World Youth Tournament was outlined in its format at the beginning of 1975. An organising Committee was nominated, which held its first meeting in January this year and prepared the Regulations for submission to the Executive Committee. These Regulations were formally adopted and confirmed by the Executive Committee at the Rio meeting and in the meantime have been sent to all National Associations and Confederations. The realisation of this tournament was also largely connected with finding a sponsor, especially to cover the vast sums which must be spent on travelling expenses for the teams. In previous issues of FIFA News, we have referred to this Tournament, which will be organised in June/July 1977 in Tunisia. The realisation of these two projects is now assured as the Executive Committee accepted in principle the signing of a contract with a sponsor. In the meantime, the last textual adjustments to the contract have been negotiated and the contract will be signed formally within the next few weeks. A formal announcement, also to the press, will be made at that time.

René Courte

Canada - Football and the 1976 Olympic Tournament

by Jacques Vaccaro, Director for Football, and Robert Oberdorff, Information Officer for Football, COJO, Montreal

An unknown centenarian

Contrary to popular belief, football is not a newcomer to Canada. In fact, it has been played here in its modern form since 1876, the year when the Carlton Club in Toronto founded its football division. A happy coincidence, football will therefore be celebrating its centenary in the Olympic year.

Introduced at an early age, Canadian football developed slowly as long as it was neglected at the minor league level, that is until the 60s. In 1934, the Canadian Football Association had 4,000 affiliated members. In 1950, it had 5,000. Today they number 150,000 spread out throughout the provinces and in all levels of society, among the old Canadian families as well as the new immigrants. Unfamiliar with football for a long time, French Canadians in turn have given it a warm reception. Québec now accounts for more than 36,000 players; twelve times more than in 1965. While showing the interest for football which has developed in French Canada these statistics also illustrate the recent leap that has been made. Thus, there are 2,000 players in a city like Sherbrooke with a population of 82,000 (a higher porportion than in most countries in the world) and 500 players each summer in Thetford. This progress is continuing in giant steps thanks to the disappearance of old prejudices and the fact that football is now played indoors more and more during the winter months (2,500 participants in the last Québec indoor minor championship...) and is faring so well that football is in the throes of becoming, if it is not already, the number one open air sport.

The birth of a style

Another proof of vitality which does not date from recent times. Canadian football has always had pockets of fans who could be relied upon to turn out when the game was sufficiently interesting: 28,000 spectators in 1967 in Montreal for the England v. Dortmund game, 30,183 (the national attendance record) for the Glasgow v. Milan game in 1968, 25,000 in Toronto and Montreal to see Pele. Since

1959, a professional league has been in operation in Ontario and Québec. Two Canadian clubs, Vancouver (founded in 1896) and Toronto participate in the activities of the North American professional league.

After its success at the Olympics in St. Louis in 1904, (the only opponent, it is true, being the United States), Canada hardly came out of its isolation until 1957, the year of its debut in the world championship. It has since made up for lost time (twelve games played by the national team in 1971) and it has multiplied its contacts outside its traditional ties with the British Isles. Although it has supplied the British clubs with six professionals, it has had to be content with a modest role until now. Its best achievement was fourth place in the 1967 Pan-American Games. Due to excess confidence, it missed qualifying for the 1972 Olympic finals. Having defeated the Bermuda team away 3:0, on home ground, the result was 1:1, but lost twice against Mexico by the narrow result of 1:0. Canada is still not in the foreground but it is already a very worthy competitor.

16 finalists in Canada

Another record for participation has been set by football, which has long been part of the Olympic scene. And it is interesting to note that the United States was the first out of 91 countries — eight more than in the last tournament — to enter the football tournament of the XXI Olympiad, the final phase of which will take place in Canada from 18 to 31 July 1976.

The preliminary competition, which must be over by 30 April 1976, will determine the fourteen teams that qualify for the final competition along with Poland and Canada. The latter two advance to this phase automatically as reigning Olympic champions and host country respectively. The division by geographical region of the sixteen teams competing for medals in 1976 is as follows:

Africa:

3 representatives

Asia/Oceania:

3 representatives

Concacaf:

3 representatives including Canada which qualifies automatically

as the host country

Europe:

5 representatives including Poland which qualifies automatically

as the 1972 Olympic champion

South America:

2 representatives

Formula

The system of play for the final competition will be successively the league system (total of points) and then the cup system (elimination of the losing team) from the quarter-finals onwards. The two leading teams from each group (league play) qualify for the quarter-finals.

The sixteen teams taking part in the final competition will therefore be divided into four groups, with each team playing one game against the other teams in the same group. The two teams in each group having obtained the most points will then qualify for the quarter-finals, and the winners here will advance to the semi-finals. The semi-final winners will meet to determine first and second place as well as the gold and silver medals, while the losers will play against one another for third place and the bronze medal.

It should be noted that:

- during the first phase of the final competition (league system), a win will be worth two points, a draw one point and a loss no points. If two teams have the same number of points after the first phase of the competition, the goal difference will be decisive. If they are still equal, the winner will be determined by drawing lots.
- Starting in the quarter-finals, the regulations provide for extra time (two periods of 15 minutes) when two teams are tied at the end of regulation time. If teams remain tied after extra time, the game will be decided by taking kicks from the penalty mark.
- The teams will be grouped by means of a public draw, while taking into account the geographical location of the countries represented.
- The groups will not be assigned to a specific city. A given team may play in different cities (Montreal, Ottawa, Sherbrooke or Toronto). Nevertheless, the two games culminating in the awarding of the medals must be played at the Olympic Stadium.
- Steps will be taken so that teams which qualify from the same group do not play against each other again in the quarter-final games.
- Each team may include 17 players but only 13 of these may play during a game.
- The referee and linesmen who officiate at each game in the Olympic football tournament will be from a neutral country.

Qualification of players

All players recognised as amateurs by the Fédération Internationale de Football Association and the International Olympic Committee may take part in the 1976 Olympic football tournament even if they have participated in the preliminary competitions and finals of the last World Cup.

Doping control

Selection of players for doping control test after each game during the final competition will be made by drawing lots. One player per team will be given a test and then two players per team starting in the quarter-finals.

Football - The universal sport par excellence

A descendant of the ball games which can be traced back to ancient China or the Aztec empire and already known under its current name during the Middle Ages (Shakespeare mentioned it in his plays), modern football was born in the nineteenth century in Great Britain. Since then, it has spread to all continents, with 142 countries affiliated to the International Football Federation and has become the most popular sport in the world, the universal sport par excellence, where both participation and attendance are the highest.

The scope of football and the size of its audience are reflected by impressive statistics, 800 million television viewers, that is one quarter of the world population, followed the final phase of the FIFA World Cup in Germany FR, which attracted over 3,000 journalists during the summer of 1974. Many 100,000-seat stadia have been built and the famous Maracana stadium in Rio de Janeiro can hold some 200,000 spectators. There are 25 million affiliated players throughout the world and 13,000 professional players in Great Britain alone. In August 1975, 85,000 persons gathered for the game between Iran and Iraq held in Tehran as part of the Olympic football tournament. In short, paraphrasing Charles the Fifth, it could be said that the sun never sets on the vast football empire.

Everything to please

Football's increasingly growing popularity in every part of the world including North America — witness the fabulous contract awarded to Pele in New York — can be explained by the power of attraction exerted by a sport which has everything to please the majority (99 % of players are amateurs).

Simple and easy to follow even for the newcomer, the game requires no special build or weight. One can distinguish oneself without being a brilliant player. Moreover, its exclusive originality lies in the fact that basically, it calls for action by the feet and the head, and is a complete sport where practically all parts of the body are used.

Add to this the element of unpredictability characterising each game (the modest

USA team succeeded in 1950 in beating all-powerful England) and the advantageous competition system that has been universally adopted. On the one hand, the championship testing regular performance; on the other, the cup events with the preliminary games which mix clubs of different levels without distinction in an adventure full of surprises and unequalled performances. Thus, it is hardly surprising that football has won over so many fans. Now that women have come onto the scene, this social phenomenon is increasingly becoming one of the most outstanding features of our time. Future surveys of our civilisation will be incomplete without reference to football.

The School of Life

The British have sowed their grain on fertile ground, and after being undisputed masters of the sport for nearly a century, they are no longer assured of victory. Since England's memorable 1953 defeat in Wembley Stadium, its first at home at the hands of a continental team, Hungary, British footballers have come down to earth. However they continue to be held in high esteem by the entire football community, which is grateful to them for having introduced a game so important that it even teaches its participants how to live. Was it not Camus who wrote "That which I know to be truest about morality and man's responsibilities, I learned from football"?

In the eyes of the World

The scope of the world championship, also called the World Cup, has continued to grow since the first competition in 1930, which was won by Uruguay. A total of 99 countries will be taking part in the eleventh version of the world championship, and the final which is scheduled for Argentina in 1978, may turn out to be a greater success than the Munich final of 1974, despite the fact that the latter attracted some 800 million television viewers. Since 1960, club teams also have their unofficial world championship, called the intercontinental cup, which brings together the champions of Europe and South America. The city of Milan can be proud of the fact that two of its teams, Inter and MAC, have won this coveted title.

The various confederations (Europe, Central and North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Oceania) organise regular competitions for the national associations and clubs under their jurisdiction. Not all teams have reached the calibre of play that is to be found in South America and Europe, but when it comes to enthusiasm and devotion they take a back seat to no-one.

FIFA and its operations

Modern football began in England, but the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), whose acronym is familiar to millions of people throughout the world, was founded in Paris in 1904 by seven countries: France, Belgium, Denmark, Holland, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. From its head office in Zurich, FIFA, along with six continental confederations (two for the Americas), governs a sport which has spread to 142 countries.

FIFA, which is preparing for its next congress in Montreal this coming July, has as its president Dr. João Havelange of Brazil, who is probably better known than many heads of state. In addition to its many functions in the various countries, FIFA is directly responsible for two, and soon three, international competitions. Indeed, besides the Olympic football tournaments and the world championships, a world youth tournament will be held for the first time in Tunisia in 1977.

Olympic Roll of Honour

Year	Venue	First	Second	Third					
1896	Athens	Denmark (2 countries entered, Denmark and Greece)							
1900	Paris	Great Britain	France	Belgium					
1904	St. Louis	Canada (2 countries entered, Canada and USA)							
1908	London	Great Britain	Denmark	Netherlands					
1912	Stockholm	Great Britain	Denmark	Netherlands					
1920	Antwerp	Belgium	Spain	Netherlands					
1924	Paris	Uruguay	Switzerland	Sweden					
1928	Amsterdam	Uruguay	Argentina	Italy					
1936	Berlin	Italy	Austria	Norway					
1948	London	Sweden	Yugoslavia	Denmark					
1952	Helsinki	Hungary	Yugoslavia	Sweden					
1956	Melbourne	USSR	Yugoslavia	Bulgaria					
1960	Rome	Yugoslavia	Denmark	Hungary					
1964	Tokyo	Hungary	Czechoslovakia	German DR					
1968	Mexico	Hungary	Bulgaria	Japan					
1972	Munich	Poland	Hungary	German DR / USSR*					

^{*} German DR and USSR were ranked third ex aequo in 1972

The Requirements of a Referee

by L.A. Wilson

Member FIFA Panel of Speakers and Lecturers for Referees' Courses Sydney, Australia



Taking into consideration all the facts, it must be admitted that every referee is capable of mistakes and has something to learn about the job of refereeing. Some are good, but none is perfect. Therefore, referees have ample room to broaden their knowledge.

Seriously now, how many actually know what their duties are as referees? Is it the duty of a referee to correct the players when they err, or should they leave it to the captain?

There is one thing that is needed in the world today more than anything else, and it is the need for men to completely understand what they are doing, why they are doing it, and what they are supposed to do when they get to their destination. This is particularly true in refereeing.

When men understand their jobs, they usually are happy and most always successfully perform their duties. Referees do not have to be mind readers exactly. Neither do they have to be supermen to the last degree. They do, however, have to be men who in some way know how to give and take, and be able to study human nature pretty well, if they are to get along and be successfully good to any degree as referees.

There are many things involved in the make-up of a referee if he is to become a top-flight man. There are five major requirements for a near perfect job of refereeing.

1. Mental Attitude. Under all types of pressure is the all important thing. The individual who masters all situations and maintains a perfect attitude of understanding and cooperation, no matter what happens, is the fellow who is sure to succeed.

The man who does not do this, to a reasonable degree, will surely find it difficult to impress the players and spectators with his work.

Mentally he should always strive to maintain the proper attitude towards the game and its participants. He should be master of himself in the art of self-control, no matter how trying the situation before him.

In conduct, he should set an outstanding example in good sportsmanship, and be master of every situation. Idle tongue wagging should not be part of his operation.

To employ a proper attitude both on and off the field is of vast importance to the referee. One's conduct may become a valuable asset, or an unshaken burdensome liability, which eventually will become unbearable. In treating this problem it is suggested that referees refrain from any "chest out" tactics in the carrying out of their duties.

When fire breaks out during the course of a play, it cannot be extinguished by the use of a temper of fire. Cool, calm and well guided action is necessary, and it should be administered with as little delay as possible.

The proper mental attitude in handling play situations call for the use of good judgment, which naturally places a limit on the tongue, as in many situations, referees speak when they should be listening, and therefore fail to recognise the merit of the complaint. Almost anyone can make a complaint, but it takes an individual with good listening powers, and the know-how of using good judgment to make quick and final disposition of it.

2. Self-control. This is interlocked with the requirement of mental attitude, as the two work hand in hand for success.

Here is a little help for the beginner or inexperienced for he is the main concern as he begins. As he enters the playing field he is apt to be confronted with many problems not common to the more experienced men. Spectators, players and officials will try his patience on many occasions, just to find out if he really has what it takes to become a good referee. He must have the courage and self-control to overcome all trying situations when he is called upon to make quick decisions on play, and be a good judge of human nature and the reactions of various individuals he must deal with. He has to be on his toes at all times and in position to see every move. He should, by earnest effort, prove that he is the master of the game by displaying the previously mentioned assets in his actions as he officiates.

Nothing a referee can have is more valuable than complete self-control, for in the practice of this he will save himself many hardships. Past experience has proven, over and over again, that the referees who have perfect control of themselves invariably use good judgment in making decisions, and therefore, are much more successful than the fellows who lose control and their tempers when the going gets tough; and it does get tough at times.

Now a word for referees who have had some experience but seem to have trouble with self-control. This requirement will eliminate a multitude of sins in refereeing. The fellow who does not practise self-control operates something like this: When in a tight spot, he goes into a lengthy detail in an effort to put over his point, and slows up the game, and usually says too much and the wrong thing. Then, after a decision has been made and the game ended, he makes a practice of discussing situations after leaving the field with players, spectators and officials, and even does so the next day on the street or at work.

The old saying is true that you learn more by listening than by talking. This is correct in many ways but it does not mean that a captain is out of order when he asks questions. A referee, however, needs to know when to listen and when to speak. This is a roundabout way of saying, that a referee must learn to practise self-control and how to use good judgment.

3. A Spirit of Co-operation. This is most always present when a referee has the proper mental attitude along with self-control. These three requirements are invariably closely related and they work for good on every turn in refereeing.

Fellow referees should always be treated in a friendly manner, both on and off the field. This engenders confidence respect and trust. A referee knows when he walks on the field his fellow referees are his only friends. He must be sure that when he asks them a question he is going to get a truthful answer.

If a referee asks his linesman his opinion of a violation of the Laws, the linesman should tell him just how he saw it. The linesman, should not, under any circumstances, agree just to please the referee, or a section of the crowd. A linesman does a great wrong, and it may mean trouble in the future, to tell the referee he was right when he was wrong. Referees should never discuss decisions with anyone but their linesman and then only in private. A linesman should try hard to be in a position to help the referee when requested. A linesman should never use the excuse that he did not see the incident, because he is there to see everything possible and if a

linesman uses that excuse he has lost instantly the respect of not only the referee but of the players as well.

An experienced referee should review his past work and if it is not what is desired, he should find out the reason. If he is working poor games and knows it, he can correct the situation; but if he is inefficient and does not know it, he is in trouble. It is wise to discuss refereeing difficulties with fellow members only, and never with outsiders. The shortcomings of players and coaches should never be discussed in public. A referee's job is to referee, and he can think what he pleases, as long as he does not express his thoughts in words. A person never gets into trouble for what he thinks.

A young referee getting started should take all the advice of an experienced referee and weigh this advice well and make good use of it, and this will add to his success.

General conduct and co-operation of individual referees should be of the nature to literally create a good feeling among, not only players, but also the general public as well. In other words, referees should develop a likeable personality, something of an asset both on and off the field.

4. Physical Fitness. This aspect of refereeing is often overlooked and becomes a hindrance to a high class job of refereeing. Being physically fit is the learning of how to wear and properly handle your uniform. Extra long hair and untidy whiskers should be avoided, as fans become suspicious of the character behind this type of brush pile. A referee should remember that he is in the public eye when he steps onto the playing field, and he should be careful of his physical actions as they may work against him.

If a referee has a sound and healthy mind, it should be kept in a strong and healthy body. This is just as essential to the approach of the game as being and keeping physically fit. If a referee is not fit, he cannot keep up with the game. The day of the flabby, out-of-condition referee has passed.

A referee is on the field with superbly conditioned athletes who can move quickly. He is therefore expected to be on top of play, so it follows that he must be fast too.

A referee, during the course of a match, covers a good deal of ground, and his success largely depends as to whether he is able to keep up with the game throughout the whole ninety minutes — and maybe extra time — and still be fit for another game!

Pre-season training is essential and then regular training at least twice a week. If a referee is gasping for breath after running 50 metres, he needs exercise. Of course, if he is too fat, besides having a shorter expectancy of life, he will never be able to keep up with the game and he may also become an object of ridicule.

5. Knowing the Laws of the Game. Many players never read the Law book until they have been penalised for a rule violation, and many of them try and brief the referee on the Laws of the Game and how to apply them. Referees should not wait until they are caught up on a Law, before reading the book.

No referee should pride himself too greatly on his complete knowledge of the Laws. Beginners have great need not only to spend a lot of time exploring the pages of the rules, but also the main purpose back of each one, the application and effect of each one. For the more experienced referees, they also need to brush up continually in order to keep the dust off their thinking caps.

As a referee reads each chapter of the Laws of the Game, and studies the book's contents, he will discover that each one is based on commonsense and fairness. The matter of using good judgment in applying them when making decisions will give a person the courage of his convictions when officiating at a game.

Many referees will see the necessity of the first four requirements previously mentioned but cannot understand how knowledge of the rules will help them to get along and please everybody in a soccer game. This is easily explained because getting along with people is one thing and pleasing people is another. During a game, a quick and correct decision will draw the respect of the public. Then, on the other hand, maybe the referee has made a half-hearted decision, because he was not sure of himself and the particular Law to be applied. This pleases only a section of the crowd, and the public is sure now that the referee is undecided. So there is a difference in getting along with people and pleasing them.

One of the mechanics of good refereeing is a thorough understanding of the Laws and how to apply them; and taking in many situations not spelled out in the rules

but left to the good judgment of the arbiter. Proper field positioning and actions on the field, when making decisions, so as to avoid any doubt in the minds of players and spectators, adds interest to the game and are also important.

Before taking an appointment, a referee should not hesitate to ask questions and clear up his mind and gain a complete understanding on puzzling situations on interpretations of the Laws. By making an honest endeavour to clear up his mind and gain a complete understanding, he only indicates a desire to learn and as he learns he becomes more efficient.

Physically speaking, when a person has an ache or a pain he goes to the limit to try and locate the trouble and takes steps to eliminate the cause. The same practice should be followed when refereeing. If a referee is having difficulty with certain sections of the Laws, he should take on the aspects of a trouble-shooter and find the cause and not stop until he has corrected the condition.

Remember that too often the referee who thinks he is pretty hot is only half-baked.

An international FIFA referee

by Istvan Somos
Sports journalist, Budapest, Hungary



My records are unique in the world -I can say this with pride. Therefore, when I ask a FIFA referee to send me his photograph and details of his career for these records, amongst other things I ask him a very interesting question: "How did you decide to become a referee?"

Their replies are like a refrain: I played football, I was injured but did not wish to leave the field of play for ever. Therefore, I decided to stay in the service of my favourite sport as a referee.

Mr. Michel Vautrot, a French FIFA referee, constitutes an exception to this rule and this from several points of view.

- following a very serious illness, he was unable to practise any sport until he was fifteen
- it was sports literature which made him love football
- and it was chance which drew him towards refereeing.

Thanks to stupendous will power, he has succeeded in becoming one of the best referees in his country, when, at the age of 30, he became one of the youngest European international referees on the FIFA List.

In his capacity as sports journalist and teacher, he has gone round almost the whole world.

Here are some more detailed observations about him:

Tall (1.87 metres, 85 kilos), dark, an open face, relaxed, at the age of 30 Michel Vautrot is an international referee from France. And yet he has never practised sports and was excused military service because of a weakness of the heart. It is certainly a unique case and, because of the will power shown to get there and to prove something, such a success should serve as an example.

Michel Vautrot lives in Besancon (centre of the French clock industry) but his profession leads him into the Jura, where he is a technical teacher at Lonsle-Saunier. A bachelor, it is football which is his companion and to which he gives special admiration. Through this sport he has certainly lived the best moments of his life and he admits that he owes a lot to football for the human contacts he was able to establish and friendships made during his travels.

He caught the virus whilst very young. At the age of 8 he suffered from a heart murmur and cardiac rheumatism. He had to stay in bed for eight months and, two years later, he had to return there for another six Michel Vautrot months. At that time, it was realised that he had an



aleukia: he needed injections, permanent medical supervision the whole time. Then Michel Vautrot was able to take up an almost normal life. However, he was still advised not to make any physical activity.

During his convalescence, he had read and re-read all the sports papers about football. He was like a child refused something. . . and he therefore found a way round the prohibition. One day, he was in Fraisans, a small village in the Jura, where there was a six-a-side tournament, as there are many in France during the summer. Naturally, he could not play, but he had the presence of mind to ask the priest organising the event to allow him to referee. The priest was a bit doubtful, but all the same he was allowed to take the whistle and, despite his youth, it seems that he did very well.

The die was cast and Michel Vautrot continued this career. His rise was also extraordinary swift.

After serving in his league for seven years as from the age of 17 1/2, he passed the final examinations of the French Federation at the age of 24. Before achieving this, he had to submit to a rough apprenticeship, where hard work had to make up for lack of experience.

It must be said that the adolescent at that time had come to refereeing by chance and through personal defiance. Assistant Secretary of the Supporters' Club of his local (2nd division) professional team and, at the same time, leading editor in

charge of the club's magazine (16 pages) "Allez Besancon", he wanted to prove that he knew thoroughly the Laws of the Game of a sport which he had never been able to practise but which he served devotedly. (He was already a member of the Supporters' Club at the age of 14 and became an actual official of the professional team at the age of 18.) It was under these conditions that he entered his candidature for the official referees' examinations.

Once he had passed, he told his surprised examiners of the goal he had achieved and his intention not to pursue the experiment any further. It is true that this eclectic Frenchman was once more devoting himself to journalism, having taken over a column in a regional weekly.

It was a fairly unusual circumstance, at the age of 18, without ever having kicked a ball, Mr. Vautrot was active in all aspects of football: actor (referee), supporter, official and critic!

Held by his own fascination with refereeing, he gradually passed each step (one per year) of the grades of national referees and was soon called upon to officiate at important matches. He is grateful to the authorities for having had confidence in one so young, as had already been the case for Mr. Wurtz.

Mr. Vautrot is an international referee as from this season but keeps to a clear modesty: "In refereeing, it takes a long time to make a small name for oneself and only a few seconds to lose everything. One must always work and keep one's eyes open in order to learn, more and always, through contact with experienced referees and during difficult matches." His motto? "Not to take oneself seriously, but to be taken seriously by others."

Today he has given up his activities within his club and also his journalism (which he only practises occasionally due to lack of time).

At the same time as allowing him to get to know men - with their good and bad sides - refereeing has made him discover the geography of the world: French Guyana, Spain, Poland, Greece, England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Algeria (Mediterranean Games). He made an extraordinary tour with the French amateur team to Vietnam, New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Tahiti...

A dream has become true and he knows what he owes to football and refereeing. "I do not know what football owes to me but in return I know well what I owe to football", he has said frequently.

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Outside refereeing, which is very exacting in France (a lot of matches and long journeys), he is a member of the regional committee, where he supervises his young colleagues, gives lectures and is a member of the National Union of French Referees. He therefore has a very full programme, but we must say that he has never drunk a drop of alcohol or coffee and he does not smoke. Perhaps the secret of his good condition and his success?

He was a referee at 17, an international at 30, starting from nothing: what a success (even if a lot of luck was involved) for this young Frenchman to demonstrate to all those who give in to adversity.

"When I referee, I think of my pupils. I would like to be able to let them share the feeling which I feel, particularly when our national anthem is played abroad. Is not refereeing, in fact, the best school of humanity, synonymous with courage and justice?"

What an extraordinary adventure! A "fairy story", this French referee tells us.

He is an example for young people from all countries and which, perhaps, only football could offer.

Details regarding Mr. Michel Vautrot

- Studies: higher bookkeeping diploma
- Superstitious? Sometimes. He does not believe in horoscopes... but takes people's eyes into account.
- Appreciates most: the friendship he find wherever he goes.
- Hates most: hypocrisy and dishonesty.
- His greatest pleasure: to live in a lively and varied atmosphere and to know as many people as possible through football.
- Qualities which he recognises in himself: openness, contact with everybody, the opportunity to help and advise others.
- Faults which he recognises in himself: he speaks a lot, often bringing the conversation round to refereeing.
- Hobbies: cinema, stamp collection... fishing (but he does not have time for it). He is interested in anything concerning the press.

Ahmed Faras, 6th African "Golden Ball"

by Matope Kibili Sports Journalist, "Masano", Kinshasa, Zaire



The African "Golden Ball" for the year 1976 has gone to Morocco. The holder is Ahmed Faras, captain of Mohammedia and the national team of Morocco, who in this way succeeds to Paul Moukila from the Congo.

Created in 1970 with the participation of all the correspondents of "France-Football" in Africa, this trophy, which is in its sixth year of existence, is awarded each year to the best African footballer — or rather to the one unofficially known as such.

Some interesting details to be pointed out: five attackers have already been awarded this trophy compared to only one defender: Bwanga Tshimen (Zaire).

Whereas 41 countries are affiliated to the AFC, only 6 have been awarded this trophy. They are: Mali, Ghana, Guinea, Zaire, the Congo and Morocco.

It is also worth noting that of the six countries quoted, four of them have won the African Cup of Nations: Ghana (twice), Zaire (twice), the Congo and Morocco.

Finally, these are the prizewinners of this trophy since its creation in 1970: Salif Keita, Mali; 1971: Ibrahim Sunday, Ghana; 1972: Cherif Souleymane, Guinea; 1973: Bwanga Tshimen, Zaire; 1974: Paul Moukila, Congo; 1975: Ahmed Faras, Morocco.

1975 Classification: 1. Faras (Morocco): 28 points; 2. N'Jo Lea (Guinea): 24; 3. Milla (Cameroon): 24; 4. Tarek (Tunisia): 16; 5. Christophe (Senegal): 15; 6. Petit Sorry (Guinea): 10; 7. Larbi (Morocco): 9; 8. Gaafar (Egypt) and Attouga (Tunisia): 7; 10. N'Lend (Cameroon), Gagarine (Sudan) and Betroumi (Algeria): 5; 13. Cherif Souleymane (Guinea), Santo (Sudan), Kaushi (Zambia), Lobilo (Zaire),

Tolo (Guinea) and Inago (Ivory Coast): 4; 19. Pirri (Zambia) and Papa Camara (Guinea): 3; 21. Polo (Ghana) and Kakoko (Zaire): 2 points.

Ahmed Faras

- born about 1948 in Mohammedia
- 1.72 metres tall; 73 kilogrammes
- member of Mohammedia since the age of 15
- international (95 selections) and captain of the national Moroccan team
- took part in the 1970 World Cup in Mexico and the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich
- best scorer in Morocco
- married, father of two children: a boy of 4 and a girl of 2
- bookkeeper

Those who are interested in the phenomenon of Faras cannot neglect the principal aspects of his career as a footballer: its long duration. Those who started or played with him in the national team have left a long time ago.

Very quick, difficult to counter, he plays excellently with the head. His left foot kicks murderous shots, which often score.

Are not all these qualities which justify being rewarded one day? This has now happened.

Concacaf Championship of Champions

by Roberto Alvarado Fuentes, Technical/Administrative Secretary, Concacaf, Guatemala City

Each year, the North and Central American and Caribbean Football Confederation (Concacaf) holds the Championship of Champions and in the 1975 season eighteen teams representing ten of the 20 member countries participated.

On this occasion, Atletico Español from Mexico became the champion of this important competition, during which this team, giving a good display of Mexican football, gave a well-balanced performance right up to winning the coveted prize. This puts them in the enviable position of playing in the near future against the winner of the "Copa Libertadores de America", the champion of the South American Football Confederation (Conmebol) for the Interamerican Cup.

Of the six matches played, they won five and drew one, a performance which proved their well-balanced efforts and showed them to be a harmonious team whose members played confidently throughout the tournament with much dedication, responsibility and enthusiasm, finally attaining the 1975 title and unbeaten throughout.

Atletico Español played its first matches in Mexico, beating Monterrey from the same country by 1:0 in the first match and drawing the second one all.

The good results achieved in this first round gave them the opportunity to face further opponents; the first of these was Saprissa from Costa Rica, whom they beat in both matches by 2:1 in San Jose, as Atletico Español played the two matches as visitors to the Costa Rican team.

They then had to move on to Surinam to play the two matches of the final round on 7 and 9 March against Transvaal, the team which qualified in Group III of the Caribbean.

The two matches against Transvaal were won by Atletico Español by 3:0 and 2:1 respectively.

Their goal record was: 11 for and 4 against in the six matches.



Atletico Español FC - Winner of the 1975 Concacaf Championship

Standing, from left to right: Eugen Rivas, Enrique Basulto (Physical trainer), Benito Pardo, Juan Manuel Alvarez, Leonel Urbina, Jaime García, Julio Aguilar, Moises Camacho, José Luis Trejo, Alejandro Gil, Jesús Rico, Dagoberto Moll (Coach), Dante Cocito (Physiotherapist). Sitting: Salvador Acho (Masseur), Miguel Marin (Asst. coach), Oswaldo Ramirez, Raúl Isiordia, José Luis Mendoza, Juan Rodriguez Vega, Juan Manuel Borbolla, Juan Banas and José Gonzalez Borja (technical director)

Programme for Montreal 1976 **

10.7.1976	0 9.00	Players' Status Committee
	15.00	Disciplinary Committee
11.7.1976	09.00	Amateur Committee
	15.00	Technical Committee
12.7.1976	09.00	Organising Committee for the 1978 FIFA World Cup
	15.00	FIFA Consultative Committees /
		Continental Confederations
13.7.1976	09.00	Referees' Committee
	15.00	Possibly: Special consultative meetings, if necessary
14.7.1976	09.00	Executive Committee
	evening	Reception
15.7.1976		Day reserved for any possible meetings which
<u> </u>		seem necessary
	evening	FIFA Cocktail
16.7.1976	10.00	FIFA Congress
17.7.1976	09.00	Meeting with the delegation officials, team doctors, coaches and referees

Suspension of a player **

(E)

BELGIUM

The Union Royale Belge des Sociétés de Football-Association, Brussels, has informed FIFA that player

Josip Bukal

has been suspended for breaking the contract with his club, Royal Standard, Liège.

FIFA List of International Referees **

(E)

HONDURAS

The international FIFA referee Oscar F. Ventura Pacheco has withdrawn from the FIFA List of International Referees at his own decision. National Associations are invited to take note of this withdrawal and not to request any further appointments for this referee.

Formation of the groups for the 1976 Final Olympic Football Tournament **

(E)

The sixteen teams taking part in the final competition will be divided into four groups of four teams each. The division of teams into groups will be made by a delegation of the Amateur Committee in a public session on 25 May 1976 in Montreal, by means of seeding and a draw, having regard inter alia to the geographical position of the countries represented. The delegation of the FIFA Amateur Committee consists of: Dr. João Havelange (Brazil), FIFA President; Messrs. Valentin Granatkin (USSR), Chairman of the Amateur Committee; Abilio d'Almeida (Brazil), Deputy Chairman; Joaquin Soria Terrazas (Mexico) and Georges Schwartz (Canada), members.

The teams qualified are:

Europe:

Poland, USSR, German DR, Spain and France

South America: Africa:

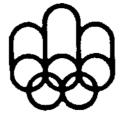
Brazil and Uruguay

Asia:

Ghana, Zambia and Nigeria Iran, Korea DPR and Israel

Concacaf:

Canada, Mexico and Guatemala



Pre-Olympic Football Tournament **
Tournoi Préolympique de Football
Torneo Preolímpico de Fútbol
Vorolympisches Fussballturnier

Results and Classifications / Résultats et classements / Resultados y clasificaciones / Resultate und Klassemente

AFRICA

Group	1
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3.4.76	Nigeria v. Morocco	3:1 (1:0)	T. Dieng, Senegal
18.4.76	Morocco v. Nigeria	1:0 (0:0)	S. Adal, Libya
Qualified	for Montreal: Nigeria		

Group 2

28.3.76	Zambia v. Sudan	2:2 (1:2)	L. Mwape, Zambia
4.4.76	Sudan v. Zambia	4:5*(0:0)	M. Moharram Izzat, Egypt
Qualified	for Montreal: Zambia	(after penalty kick	s)

Group 3

14.3.76	Senegal v. Ghana	0:0 (0:0)	Z. Benghanif, Algeria
28.3.76	Ghana v. Senegal	2:1 (2:0)	P. Koudou, Ivory Coast
Oualified	for Montreal: Ghana		

ASIA

Group 3

2 7.3.76	Korea Rep. v. Japan	2:2 (1:2)	Cheung Kwok Kui, Hong Ke
31.3.76	Japan v. Israel	0:3 (0:2)	Koh Guan Kiat, Malaysia
	(played in Seoul)		
4.4.76	Korea Rep. v. Israel	1:3 (0:1)	H.S. Dhillon, Singapore
11.4.76	Israel v. Japan	4:1 (2:1)	S. Gonella, Italy
28.4.76	Israei v. Korea Rep.	0:0 (0:0)	E. Linemayr, Austria

Classification:	1. Israel	3	3	0	0	10:2	6
	2. Korea Rep.	3	1	1	1	5:5	3
	3. Japan	4	0	1	3	3:11	1,
		10	4	2	4 ·	18:18	10

Qualified for Montreal: Israel

CONCACAF — Concluding Matches

31.3.76	Mexico v. Guatemala			4:1 (1:1			P. Johnson, Canada		
4.4.76	Gua	temala v. Mexico		3:2	2 (2:1)	J. Matos, Canada			
18.4.76	Cub	a v. Guatemala		1:1 (0:0)		C. Alfaro Venegas, Costa Ri			sta Rica
25.4.76	Guatemala v. Cuba			1:1	(0:1)	T. I	T. Kibritjian, USA		
Classification:		1. Mexico	4	2	1	1	11:7	5	
		2. Guatemala	4	1	2	1	6:8	4	
		3. Cuba	4	0	3	1	5:7	3	
			12	3	6	3	22:22	12	

Qualified for Montreal: Mexico and Guatemala

EUROPE

Group 2

24.3.76	Austria v. German DR				(0:1)	G. Clacci, Italy				
7.4.76	German DR v. CSSR			0:0	(0:0)	V. Rudnev, USSR				
14.4.76	CSS	R v. Austria		5:0	0 (3:0) W. Eschweiler, Ger			er, Germai	ıy FR	
Classification:		1. German DR	4	2	2	0	5:2	6		
		2. CSSR	4	1	3	0	7:2	5		
		3. Austria	4	0	1	3	0:8	1		
			12	3	6	3	12:12	12		

Qualified for Montreal: German DR

Group 3

24.3.76	Turkey v. Spain	0:0 (0:0)	H. Seoudi, Tunisia
14.4.76	Bulgaria v. Turkey	3:0 (1:0)	V. Tauzes, Yugoslavia

Classification: 1. Spain 4 2 2 0 5:2 6 2. Bulgaria 4 2 1 1 7:3 5 3. Turkey 4 0 1 3 0:7 1 12 4 4 4 12:12 12

Qualified for Montreal: Spain

Group 4

24.3.76 6.4.76 14.4.76	Rumania v. France Netherlands v. Rumania Rumania v. Netherlands			1:0 (1:0) 0:3 (0:0) 5:1 (3:1)		G. Katsoras, Greece N. Rolles, Luxemburg R. Casha, Malta			
Classification:		1. France	4	3	0	1	11:5	6	
		 Rumania Netherlands 	4 4	3 0	0	1 4	9:5 5:15	6 0	
			12	6	0	6	25:25	12	

Qualified for Montreal: France

Countries qualified for the Final Competition — Montreal 1976

1. Last Winner:	Concacaf:
Poland	9. Mexico
	10. Guatemala
2. Organising	
country:	
Canada	Europe:
	11. USSR
Africa:	12. German DR
	13. Spain
3. Nigeria 4. Zambia	14. France
—	
5. Ghana	
Asia:	South America:
	15. Brazil
6 Iran	15. 6

16. Uruguay

8. Israel

7. Korea DPR

6. Iran

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News from the 1976 Olympic Games

Doping Control during the Olympic Games 1976 in Canada

It is a basic principle (Rule 27A of the Olympic Rules) that doping controls be carried out during the Olympic Games in all sports. In order to avoid any difficulties in this connection, the FIFA Medical Committee has decided to provide the officials, team doctors and players with a memorandum, supplying some extra details, in addition to the existing rules.

1. Basic Principles

The Olympic Football Tournament shall be carried out within the framework of the Olympic Games in accordance with the instructions of the IOC and the agreement of FIFA, based on the regulations issued by the FIFA.

The regulations *IOC Medical Controls* 1976, are applicable when anti-doping tests are carried out. These regulations should be sent to all Associations participating in the Final Competition.

2. Special attention is drawn to the following Points in the Regulations

The doping controls shall be carried out by the Games Organising Committee under the supervision of the IOC Medical Commission.

All competitors to the Olympics are liable to medical control and examination in conformity with the Rules of the IOC Medical Commission. (Rule 27B of the Olympic Rules). Any competitor who refuses shall be eliminated (Rule 27C of the Olympic Rules).

The Regulations "IOC Medical Controls" are practically identical with the provisions of the FIFA for the 1974 World Cup. The FIFA will issue new instructions for the 1978 World Cup in the light of all the experience gained up to that point.

The Regulations "IOC Medical Controls" stipulate that in certain questions the recommendations of the International Sports Federations can be considered. With this in mind FIFA has recommended that:

- for the matches of the Olympic Football Tournament, 2 players from each team (including substitutes) be drawn for the first round matches and 4 players per team for the Final and the match for 3rd and 4th place,
- the draw shall be made after the interval, but before the end of the match, in the presence of the official FIFA Inspector,
- the urine samples used for the detection of anabolic steroids shall not be taken separately.

As anabolic steroids have a very long-term effect, it would also be possible to take urine samples before the match, this would however, as far as football is concerned, unnecessarily complicate matters.

A new point in the existing Regulations is the prohibition of anabolic steroids. FIFA is in absolute agreement with this prohibition.

We understand by anabolic steroids, apart from the male sexual hormone, synthetic chemical compounds derived from this hormone. These are quite numerous today and can be administered orally or by injection. They have the effect of a relative long-term increase of muscular mass and thereby an increase of muscular power, provided they are taken in conjunction with an intensive training programme and an appropriate protein intake. They are slow to take effect, but the effect remains over a long period and exceeds the intake from one to several weeks. Anabolic steroids can produce adverse and dangerous side-effects (liver disfunction, metabolic disturbances, menstrual disturbances and masculinization in females, reduction of speed, etc.).

The detection of the most important anabolic steroids in the urine has shortly become possible; by intensive research, the detection possibilities are being continually expanded and the methods made more sensitive.

3. What should be particularly observed to prevent complications?

These methods of analysis have been refined to such an extent that the greatest sensitivity and certainty has been achieved (spectography, gaschromatography and mass spectrometry). Effective amounts of doping substances cannot therefore escape detection. One should however under no circumstances depend upon small quantities escaping detection!

The experience gained during the Olympic Games in Munich, at many Ski World Cup races, at the 1974 FIFA World Cup, and recently at the Olympic Games in

Innsbruck, as well as during Ice Hockey World Championships, has proved that the cause of practically all cases of doping was ignorance, carelessness, bad team leadership or bad discipline of individual sportsmen and was not due to deliberate attempts to improve performance.

In this connection, standing out prominently taking the lead is the administration of preparations containing ephedrine or related substances: nose drops, sprays, cough medicine (tablets, syrup). Preparations used for the same purpose often contain Codeine which, as a derivative of morphine, is forbidden (e.g. Innsbruck case). Practically all medicaments used for slimming also contain forbidden substances (e.g. case in the 1974 World Cup).

In judging such cases, sometimes incomprehensible to the outsider, it should be borne in mind that the substances concerned are evidently doping substances even if they have been administered as treatment.

The prescription of a medicament by a doctor is no protection against punishment! The Regulations alone are decisive and *never* a personal interpretation of the doping concept.

The Consumption of alcohol is only subject to control if the International Federation expressly desires it (shooting, pentathlon). This does not therefore apply to football.

Sedatives and soporifics are not included on the list of prohibited drugs. A sleeping tablet can therefore be taken on the night prior to the match. However if there is the slightest doubt, enquiry should be made with the competent authority.

Anabolic steroids are to be strictly avoided, particularly as it is extremely questionable whether they have a beneficial effect on the footballer. One must not rely upon the fact that the effect outlives the intake of the substance and, therefore, also the possibility of detection.

In practice, more often than one cares to admit, doping substances have no effect on the performance, or can even produce adverse effects. For this reason alone their utilisation presents numerous problems.

4. Recommendations

The team officials should be fully informed of the instructions concerning doping. The team doctor should also be fully informed and is also liable to keep himself informed of the pharmacological details.

As prohibited substances can be found in vastly varying specialities depending upon the country, acquaintance with pharmaceutical literature (Index, Pharmacopeia). It is also recommended that additional information be obtained from a chemist, up to date in such matters, or a toxicologist.

The doctor should be advised to bring with him from his own country the medicaments which he is acquainted with and deems necessary.

It is essential that the players be instructed previously by the doctor in an appropriate and comprehensible manner. Such instructions should incorporate:

- Explanations,
- Prohibition to take whatsoever medicine without permission of the doctor in the 48 hours preceding the match,
- The players be requested to present for checking any medicaments which they have themselves brought with them from home (even if this has been prescribed by the player's own doctor).

It is recommended that each player be given for his personal use in the case of an emergency (e.g. in the night) nose ointment, tablets against sore throats and medicine for "flu" which do not contain any prohibited substances.

It is recommended — even if this is not officially requested — that the Doping Committee carrying out the tests, or the IOC Medical Commission be notified in advance of all the medicaments administered in the last 48 hours, unless there is absolutely no doubt as to their harmlessness (e.g. glucose, vitamins, etc.).

- 5. Team officials, doctors and players alike should make a conscious effort to ensure:
- that fairness is maintained, even at critical moments;
- that the health of the players is protected;
- that complications are avoided. Any possible advantage to be gained from the use of doping has no rational relation to the risks it involves;
- that the reputation of football within the Olympic Games is not compromised.
- 6. Any further information required will be given willingly by the

FIFA Medical Committee, Prof. G. Schönholzer, Hitzigweg 11, 8032 Zurich, or, during the Games, by the IOC Medical Commission, or their appointed representative.

(E)

Advice for Athletes visiting Canada for the 1976 Olympic Games

by Prof. Dr. A.L. Bass, Member of the FIFA Medical Committee, Canada

During the period of the 1976 Olympic Games in July, 1976, the majority of the participants will be in the area around Montreal in the province of Quebec.

Montreal is on the St. Lawrence River and is a large modern city of some two and a half million people at sea level. The summer temperature in Montreal at this time of year may vary considerably between 23 and 35 degrees Celsius and the humidity during this period may also vary within considerable limits between 60 and 90 percent.

There is no problem whatsoever regarding the drinking water which is pure and, being a Cosmopolitan City, all types of food may be obtained with relative ease.

The usual light weight clothing that one would wear in the climate described above anywhere else in the world is appropriate for Montreal during the period of the Olympic Games.

There will be adequate medical coverage by Canadian doctors of the Games and a liaison between the various teams and the central medical authority will be effected after the arrival of each team in Canada.



1978 FIFA World Cup **
Coupe du Monde de la FIFA, 1978
Copa Mundial de la FIFA 1978
FIFA-Weltpokal 1978

1978 FIFA World Cup Organising Committee decision, regarding

Asia/Oceania — Preliminary Competition

At its meeting on 5 April 1976, the Bureau of the 1978 FIFA World Cup Organising Committee decided to rescind the previous decision concerning the final round matches of the preliminary competition in Asia/Oceania. The new decision concerning these concluding matches is as follows:

- The winners of groups 1 to 4 in Asia and the winner of the Oceania group must be known by 31 March 1977.
- The five group winners will play the concluding matches on a home and away basis unless otherwise decided by the group winners and approved by FIFA.
- The winner of these concluding matches must be known by 30 November 1977.
 The winner will qualify for the 1978 Final Competition in Argentina.

Dates in Group 8 - Europe

As Spain and Yugoslavia could not agree on the dates of their matches, at its meeting on 5 April 1976, the Bureau of the 1978 FIFA World Cup Organising Committee, based on the provisions of Article 4, paragraph 8, of the World Cup Regulations, decided that the matches in this group would be played on the following dates:

10.10.76	Spain v. Yugoslavia	26.10.77	Spain v. Rumania
16. 4.77	Rumania v. Spain	13.11.77	Rumania v. Yugoslavia
8. 5.77	Yugoslavia v. Rumania	30.11.77	Yugoslavia v. Spain

Preliminary Competition / Tour Préliminaire / Vuelta Preliminar / Vorrunde

Results as at 28.4.76 / Résultats au 28.4.76 / Resultados al 28.4.76 Resultate bis zum 28.4.76

AFRICA

Extra Preliminary Round

7.3.76	Sierra Leone v. Niger	5:1 (1:1)	S. Woghiren, Nigeria
21.3.76	Niger v. Sierra Leone	2:1 (1:1)	S.T. Badru, Nigeria

Sierra Leone qualified to play Nigeria home and away in Group 8 in the first round (before 31.10.76).

13.3.76	Upper Volta v. Mauritania	1:1 (0:1)	A. Amidou, Niger
28.3.76	Mauritania v. Upper Volta	0:2 (0:1)	M. Ba, Mali

Upper Volta qualified to play Ivory Coast home and away in Group 8 in the first round (before 31.10.76).

First Round

Group 1

1.4.76	Algeria v. Libya	1:0 (0:0)	J. Dubach, Switzerland
16.4.76	Libya v. Algeria	0:0 (0:0)	E.C. Guruceta, Spain

Algeria qualified to play the winner of Morocco/Tunisia home and away in the second round.

CONCACAF

Extra Preliminary Round - Group 3 - Caribbean Area

2.4.76	Dom. Republic v. Haiti	0:3 (0:3)	M. Wuertz, USA
17.4.76	Haiti v. Dom. Republic	3:0 (2:0)	L.R. Villarejo, P. Rico

Haiti qualified to play Netherlands Antilles home and away in the first round matches before 31.8.76.

First Round - Central Area

4.4.76 Panama v. (Costa Rica	3:2 (0:1)	C.L. Cedillos, Honduras
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Dates of matches / Dates des matches / Fechas de partidos / Spieldaten

AFRICA

Group 10

1.10.76	Sudan v. Kenya
10.10.76	Kenya v. Sudan

Group 12

9.5.76	Zambia v. Malawi
30.5.76	Malawi v. Zambia

CONCACAF

Central Area

2.5.76	Panama v. El Salvador
1.8.76	El Salvador v. Panama

Caribbean Area - First Round

Group 1

4.7.76	Guyana v. Surinam
29.8.76	Surinam v. Guyana

Group 2

15.8.76	Barbados v. Trinidad
31.8.76	. Trinidad v. Barbados

ASIA / OCEANIA

Oceania

3.7.76	Australia v. N. Zealand	13.7.76	N. Zealand v. Taiwan
6.7.76	Taiwan v. Australia	17.7.76	N. Zealand v. Australia
10.7.76	Australia v. Taiwan	20.7.76	Taiwan v. N. Zealand

Forthcoming matches and referees / Prochains matches et arbitres Futuros partidos y árbitros / Kommende Spiele und Schiedsrichter

2.5.76	Panama v. El Salvador	L.A. Rojas, Costa Rica
9.5.76	Zambia v. Malawi	Zaire
23.5.76	Cyprus v. Denmark	N. Doudine, Bulgaria
30.5.76	Malawi v. Zambia	Madagascar

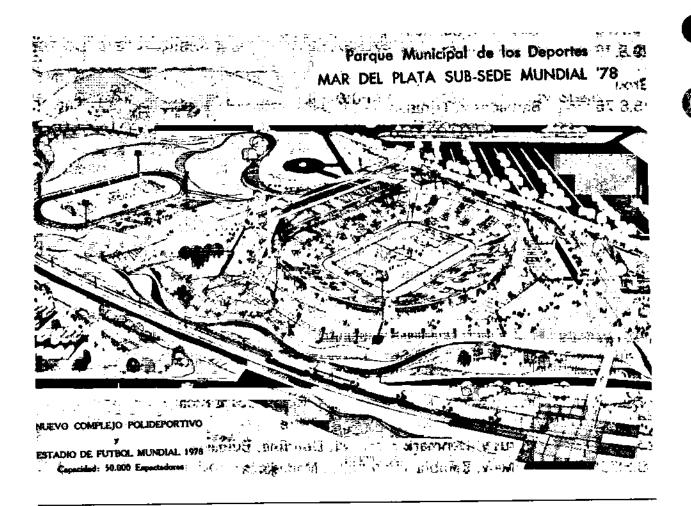
(S/E)

News from the 1978 FIFA World Cup

The New Football Stadium in Mar del Plata — Sub-seat for the 1978 FIFA World Cup in Argentina

(Information made available at the time of the visit of a FIFA Press Committee delegation at the beginning of March 1976)

The site of Mar del Plata's new football stadium is within the Municipal Sports Park, thus becoming a part of a very large sports complex, which also includes facilities for cycling, roller-skating, athletics, tennis, basket ball and hand ball, in addition to several auxiliary football pitches.





Visit of a FIFA Press Committee Delegation to Balcarce, Argentina, at the beginning of March 1976

From left to right: Hidalgo, Chairman, Press Committee — Subsede Mar del Plata; O. Gañete Blasco; B. Devoto; F. Niembro; R. Regirozzi (all Comité Prensa y Difusión Mundial 78); Dr. W. Gerhardt (FIFA Press Committee); O. Sanchez (C.P.D. Mundial 78); F. Taylor; R. Courte; A. Herbauts (all FIFA Press Committee); D. Zavatarelli (C.P.D. Mundial 78)

The stadium will be scarcely five minutes from the centre of the city, only 3,600 metres from the San Martin Park, which is the central landmark.

Work on the stadium started on 1 October 1975, with excavations and earth removals. At present it is on the level of the playing field. Excavations are 5 metres deep.

122,000 cubic metres have already been excavated and no less than 70,000 cubic metres have been compressed. The cementing of the basic structure has already started in twenty places, as also has the basis of the ticket offices, the East Stand and the West Stand, where the main roofed stand is.

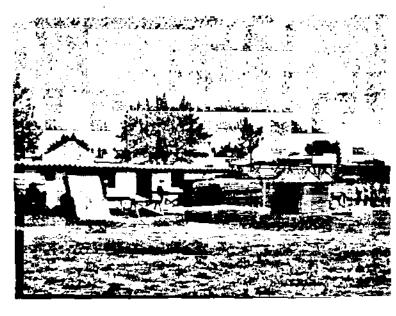
With regard to the playing field itself, collectors, drains and drain covers have been installed and the irrigation system has been completed.

Outside the playing field there is a field for sterilising black earth, which will be used on the playing field and which will be sown during the first fortnight in April.

A nursery is being made within the park so as to have the necessary reserve turf in case of failure of the grass sown on the field of play.

The firms responsible, Sebastian Maronesse & Sons, S.A., and Crivelli & Cuenya Constructions S.A., have confirmed that the work is advancing within the time schedule.

The plans for these works were drawn up by: Antonioni Schon Zamborain & Associates, architects, and Rodolfo Bramante, engineer, under the direction of Norberto J. Rodiño, architect.

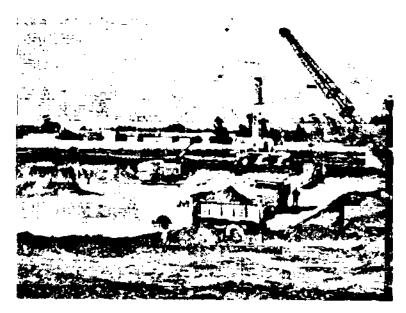


The Development of the Construction Programme in Mar del Plata

October 1975: Working installations. Construction of surrounding fence



October 1975: Working installations



October 1975: Excavation of playing field



November 1975: Excavation works on the playing field and West Stand



November 1975: Compacting East Stand: Goat feet rollers, pneumatic rollers



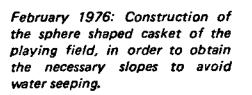
December 1975: Excavating the base of the West Stand



February 1976: Playing field. Construction of collecting ditches, drains and distribution of draining layer



February 1976: Playing field. Construction of Collectors and Drainage





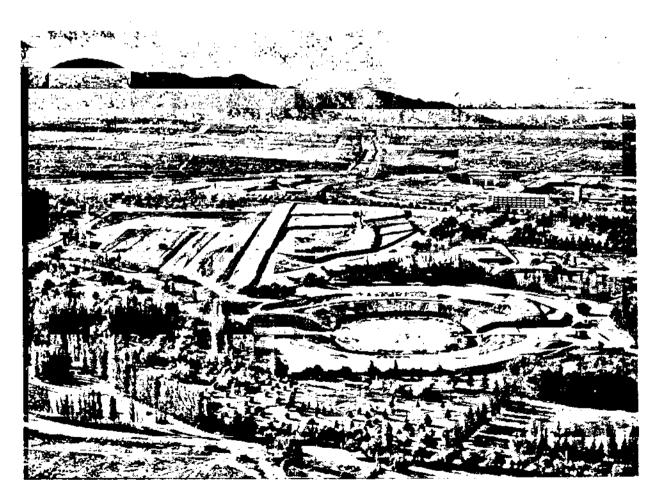
February 1976: Excavation for the base of West Stand



March 1976: Drainage of field completed



March 1976: Bases of concrete and steel construction of main roofed stand completed



The construction of the Estadio Mendoza Mundial 78 - end April 1976

News from National Associations' Bulletins

Compiled by Antoine Herbauts of the FIFA Press and Publications Committee

BELGIUM

from "La Vie Sportive"

(F)

The Reign of Football

In many countries, the football association is the largest. In other words, football is the most popular sport, the one which reckons with the most players and which attracts the largest number of spectators. This success is unquestionably due to the fact that it is very attractive and well organised. But it would be a serious error to imagine that this popularity is assured unconditionally. We will no doubt astonish many people by revealing that before the first world war, when football was far from attaining its present power, wrestling matches were a considerable attraction. Of course, it seems probable that whatever happens, football will always be played. We can even conjecture, when we see the crowd getting more and more excited at matches, that we have not yet reached the limit. But the essential is not to reach the top but to stay there. In order to arrive there, there are many difficulties to be overcome. They are not all of equal importance, but it would be serious to ignore them.

There remains the question of refereeing. Everyone agrees in saying that the attackers must be protected against defenders who are too rough. But if the referees start getting out red or yellow cards or whistle for penalties against rough play, some of the spectators would find that they were exaggerating or were imposing "light" penalties, as though "heavy" ones existed. We have had the opportunity to watch matches where the best referees in the world officiated. We have never seen a single one where a referee, finding himself in a confused situation and deciding honestly and often with common sense, was not criticised violently and often unfairly by some of the spectators. If the spectators visiting the stadium are not

convinced in advance that the match is being directed by a neutral man, who is confident, does his best to carry out his job well, but who can make mistakes — just as a goalkeeper can let a ball through, a back can make a bad save, a forward can miss a goal which should have been easy — then this will mean, sooner or later, the decline of football. The referee's principal quality, other than those which he proved at his examination and the experience he has acquired throughout his career, is honesty. To imagine that he will be perfect or even that he will please everyone is to hope for the impossible. If we want football to remain the most popular sport, we must accept the referee's decisions, whether they please us or not. The worst referee is the one who tries to please all the spectators. In the first place, he will not succeed. Secondly, he will slide into such a series of complications that he will disgust the true fans.

The most serious danger hanging over football is the excessive exploitation of its current success. Will we be able to curb the damage? We are not completely convinced. Nevertheless, this is an indispensable condition if we wish the reign of football to carry on for many years to come.

FRANCE

from "France-Football officiel"

(F)

Minus multiplied by minus does not equal plus

by Jacques Georges, President of the French Football Federation

In our little world of football, in rather a turmoil in recent weeks, some people can talk of nothing but false problems to which false solutions have been found.

If memories of starting algebra are accurate and minus multiplied by minus equals plus, then we should be wallowing in the truth and in a state of euphoria. However, either those distant memories are not accurate or the evolution of the modern world has put even the oldest principles in danger, but this does not seem to be the case.

As a counterpart to the efforts of the federal clubs, the top clubs should perhaps manage their finances more strictly, give in less to pressure from supporters or public opinion, accept willingly examinations of their bookkeeping, abandon the policy of French or foreign "stars", who are too expensive for our limited means, and adopt a policy for youth.

Football should be synonymuous with quality and honesty.

We are convinced that even if the present situation is serious, even if it requires emergency measures, football will continue, as it is not only a social factor but an

economic and human necessity. The local councils which subsidise professional teams have well understood this. Perhaps also in the future they will be even closer linked to the life of professional football and will give further assistance.

If there are some rather dark clouds in the sky at the moment as far as football is concerned, there are also many reasons for hope, even if it is only an increase in the number of spectators and the number of registered players. The club's efforts to build a good foundation from all points of view, the performances of some of our clubs, of the Olympic team and the "Under-23" team, which is very promising.

GERMAN DR

from "FUWO - Neue Fussball-Woche"

(D)

We must train better even with children

by Konrad Dorner, Ass. General Secretary, Football Association of the German DR It is of primary importance for our football to pick up the threads of our good performances in the final rounds of the 1974 FIFA World Cup and the good results achieved at that time. The basis for further development of our football can only be placed in the field of "future players". In this respect, even greater attention must be paid to technical and tactical training. And this starting with the children in the lowest age group. Each boy must be made fully aware that he can only improve his ability and proficiency through more and better — and especially through decidedly more — individual training. Only in this way can the weaknesses be lost and strength gained.

Naturally, this also means a heavier burden on the coaches and trainers in the clubs, coaching and community centres. Only if they all pull together, as well as the many honorary helpers in the various groups, can our football make the continuous progress we all desire.

At present, most attention is directed at the qualification of our team for the Olympic Tournament in Montreal. Here it is necessary to make every effort to prepare the selected players suitably for this great event. Everyone in his own place has the same share of high responsibility in this respect.

Measures for the systematic training of our best talents

by Klaus Schlegel

It is not only today that there is a call for the football in our country to reach international level. It is not only today that we realise that this achievement has not

yet been attained, although some progress in this direction can be seen at top level. It is not only today that the experts tell us categorically that the best teams, particularly in the field of technique and tactics, but also on certain special points of athletic training, have overtaken us.

Now it is obviously understandable that certain measures must follow these findings, not only to satisfy the demand but also to make up the backlog. It would naturally be an illusion to expect to make a break-through at world level in one jump and on a wide front. Therefore, the quantity must be reduced in order to achieve the desired effect in quality. Immediately after the 1974 FIFA World Cup, the Football Association of the German DR took decisions aimed at a further development of our football. At its most recent meeting, the Board decided on measures for the systematic training of our best talents.

Three points were decided:

- 1) Beginning with the 1976/77 season, the eleven Proficiency Centres will form a youth league for the age group 14-15 years.
- 2) Beginning with the 1976/77 season, the eleven Proficiency Centres will form a youth league for the age group 16-17 years. Both leagues will normally play their matches on Sundays and will determine the German DR Youth and Junior Champions.
- 3) In the area of the first division, relief teams in the age group 18-21 years will be formed, which will play the pre-match games (instead of the Junior first division) and determine the relief champion. A maximum of three players over 21 years of age will be permitted to play in these teams.

In his detailed explanation of these measures, Dr. Klaus Dieter Trapp started from the point that there was a gap in the technical and tactical training of our best talent and that this was currently being compensated by exaggerated aggressivity, which was a completely unsuitable remedy in the long run. And because, very often, kicking off quickly, jumping power and mobility are largely replaced by endurance, what has been practised during training must remain unstable after the competition activity in the Youth and Junior categories with the result that playing talents as a whole are not taken sufficiently into account; training is influenced too much by competition and therefore other means of building up our talent must be found. The system of competition must be adapted to training. We can only ensure achieving the performances hoped for in the 1980s if we can attain greater efficiency in the development of our talent today.

These measures have been decided to facilitate the trouble-free promotion of players from the relief to the senior teams and to hasten the development of our talent. In the near future, these measures will be supplemented with further details.

NETHERLANDS

from "De KNVBer"

(F)

No sports medicine prize

The Jury of the Sports Medicine Prize has decided not to award the prize for the year 1975. Contrary to previous years, the number of memoranda submitted was very low. Although these were considered worthy of interest on certain points, none of them fulfilled the necessary requirements for the award of the prize. Nonetheless, two prizes of the sum of 1'000 Florins each (approx. Swiss Francs 1'000) were offered as "encouragement".

National news

The number of members affiliated to the KNVB is constantly increasing. On 30 June 1975, it reached 932,676, which is an increase of 23,551 compared with the same date in 1974.

The amateur clubs have benefited from grants of some 23 million Florins (approx. Swiss Francs 23 million). Without this assistance, the KNVB wonders how the amateur clubs could keep going.

News from Confederations

CONCACAF



1976 Championship of Champions

The following clubs will take part in the 1976 Championship of Champion Clubs:

1. A.S. Italia (Canada)	11. Club Olimpia (Honduras)
2. Toronto Metros Croatia (Canada)	12. Club Diriangen (Nicaragua)
3. Inter Giuliana Club (USA)	13. Jong Colombia (Neth. Antilles)
4. Club Deportivo Toluca (Mexico)	14. Sport Unie Brion Trappers (Neth. Ant.)
5. Club Social y Dep. León (Mexico)	15. Malvern (Trinidad)
6. Aurora F.C. (Guatemala)	16. Palo Seco (Trinidad)
7. Club Comunicaciones (Guatemala)	17. Robin Hood (Surinam)
8. Club Aguila (El Salvador)	18. Voorward (Surinam)
9. Club Alianza (El Salvador)	19. Thomas United (Guyana)
10. Club España (Honduras)	20. Christianburg (Guyana)

Youth Football Tournament

The Concacaf Youth Tournament will be organised in San Juan, Puerto Rico from 15 September to 6 October 1976. FIFA President Dr. João Havelange has been invited to honour the tournament with his presence by the organising association of Puerto Rico.

First Youth Tournament "Union Centroamericana" Champion: Costa Rica (S) by Roberto Alvarado Fuentes, Technical/Administrative Secretary, Concacaf, Guatemala City

The first youth tournament, organised by the Federation of El Salvador, ran smoothly and in good order. This tournament served as a rehearsal for the VI Concacaf Youth Tournament, which will be held under the auspices of the Puerto

Rican Football Federation from 19 September to 6 October 1976 and in which the FIFA regulations with regard to the age of players, which will be the same as for the first World Youth Tournament to be held in 1977 in Tunisia, will be applied.

The Tournament in San Salvador was a great success, which is a good sign for the one to be played in Puerto Rico, for which a considerable number of countries from the Concacaf area have already announced their participation, thus proving their great interest in this event which will not be held for some time yet.

The efforts made by the Federation of El Salvador in the organisation of this first youth competition were fully rewarded, given the presence of youth teams from five of six countries forming the Group II of Concacaf, whilst regretting once more the absence of the team from Honduras.

The inaugural ceremony of this important tournament took place in the Estadio Flor Blanca in San Salvador with a procession of all the participating delegations in the presence of the President and Vice President of the Confederation, Messrs. Joaquin Soria Terrazas and Hiram Sosa Lopez.

From 27 March to 8 April, the results were as follows:

27.3.76	El Salvador v. Guatemala			4:1		C.L. Monge				
	Panama v. Nicaragua			1:0			R.I	R.L. Estrada		
30.3.76	El S	alvador v. Nicaragua		0:1			J.R	J.R. Mollinedo		
	Gua	temala v. Costa Rica		3	3:1		E . <i>A</i>	Aguil	ar V.	
1.4.76	Gua	temala v. Panama		3:0			D . <i>i</i>	D. Avendaño		
	El S	alvador v. Costa Rica		•):2		R.I	Est	rada	
3.4.76	Cost	a Rica v. Nicaragua		1	:0		R. 1	Reye	s Rodas	
	El S	alvador v. Panama		5	5:0		J.R	. Mo	llinedo	
6.4.76	Pana	ıma v. Costa Rica		0:0			J.R. Mollinedo			
	Gua	temala v. Nicaragua		1	l:1		J.L	. Roş	gel	
Deciding l	Match:									
8.4.76	Gua	temala v. Costa Rica		1:1			D.	Aven	daño	
		(Result by penalty	kicks	: 2	2:4))				
Classificat	tion:	1. Guatemala	4	2	1	1	8:6	5		
•		2. Costa Rica	4	2	1	1	4:3	5		
		3. El Salvador	4	2	0	2	9:4	4		
		4. Nicaragua	4	1	1	2	2:3	3		
		5. Panama	4	1	1	2	1:8	3		
			20	8	4	8	24:24	20		

The tournament had to be decided between the representative teams from Costa Rica and Guatemala. Both teams arrived at the final round with an equal number of

points, which meant that an extra match had to be played; this too ended in a draw and the competition was decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark. Costa Rica scored 4 against 3 from Guatemala, and the Costa Rican team was therefore declared the champion after an exciting match.

CONMEBOL



Copa Libertadores de America - Results

Group I:	23.3.76 25.3 30.3 1.4 7.4 7.4	Buenos Aires La Plata La Plata Buenos Aires Acarigua La Plata	River Plate v. Dep. Portuguesa 2:1 Estudiantes v. Dep. Portuguesa 3:0 Estudiantes v. Dep. Galicia 4:0 River Plate v. Dep. Galicia 4:1 Dep. Portuguesa v. Dep. Galicia 3:1 Estudiantes v. River Plate 1:0
Group II:	21.3 21.3 24.3 24.3 4.4 4.4 11.4 11.4	Quito Cuenca Quito Cuenca Cuenca La Paz Santa Cruz La Paz Santa Cruz La Paz	Liga Dep. Univ. v. Guabirá 4:0 Deportivo Cuenca v. Bolívar 3:1 Liga Dep. Univ. v. Bolívar 2:1 Dep. Cuenca v. Guabirá 1:0 Dep. Cuenca v. Liga Dep. Universitaria 0:0 Bolívar v. Guabirá 7:1 Guabirá v. Liga Dep. Universitaria 0:1 (match abandoned after 15' in first half) Bolívar v. Dep. Cuenca 4:2 Guabirá v. Dep. Cuenca 0:2 Bolívar v. Liga Dep. Universitaria 3:2
Group III:	22.4 18.3 21.3 24.3 28.3 28.3	Asunción Porto Alegre Bello Horizonte Porto Alegre Asunción	Liga Dep. Univ. v. Dep. Cuenca 2:1 Olimpia v. Cruzeiro 2:2 Internacional v. Sp. Luqueño 3:0 Cruzeiro v. Sp. Luqueño 4:1 Internacional v. Cruzeiro 0:2 Sp. Luqueño v. Olimpia 0:1

	4.4 11.4 14.4	Bello Horizonte Asunción Asunción	Cruzeiro v. Olimpia 4:1 Sp. Luqueño v. Internacional 0:1 Olimpia v. Internacional 1:1
Group IV:		Bogotá	Independiente Santa Fe v. Millonarios 1:0
	25.3	Puno	Alfonso Ugarte v. Alianza 0:0
	4.4	Lima	Alianza v. Independiente Santa Fe 3:0
	6.4	Puno	Alfonso Ugarte v. Indep. Santa Fe 2:1
	13.4	Puno	Alfonso Ugarte v. Millonarios 1:1
	18.4	Lima	Alianza v. Millonarios 2:1
Group V:	16.3	Santiago	Palestino v. Peñarol 1:0
_	18.3	Santiago	U. Española v. Nacional 2:0
	24.3	Montevideo	Nacional v. Peñarol 1:2
	24.3	Santiago	U. Española v. Palestino 1:0
	30.3	Montevideo	Peñarol v. Palestino 2:1
	31.3	Montevideo	Nacional v. U. Española 1:1
	3.4	Montevideo	Nacional v. Palestino 1:1
	4.4	Montevideo	Peñarol v. U. Española 2:0
	T, T	Montevideo	i vitator 1. O. Espanoia 2.0

UEFA



13th Ordinary UEFA Congress

(E)

The 13th Ordinary Congress of UEFA will take place on Tuesday, 15 June 1976, in Stockholm Sweden.

Proposals of items for inclusion in the Agenda had to be in the hands of the UEFA General Secretariat by 14 March 1976.

Candidates for election to the FIFA Executive Committee and the UEFA Executive Committee had to be submitted by the same date. The term of office of the following members will expire in 1976:

UEFA Members:

Dr. Heinz Gerö

Austria

Mr. Jacques Georges

France

Dr. Vaclav Jira

CSSR

Mr. Roger Petit

Belgium

Mr. Lucien Schmidlin

nidlin Switzerland

FIFA Members:

Dr. Georges Dedes

Greece

Dr. Osmo P. Karttunen

Finland

Members whose term of office expires are eligible for re-election.

The following will not stand for re-election:

Dr. Georges Dedes

Dr. Osmo P. Karttunen

In addition, there will be a complementary election for a member of the FIFA Executive Committee for the period 1976-78 to replace Mr. Helmut Riedel.

Course for top-class referees

The 3rd course for UEFA top-class referees is scheduled to take place from 30 August to 3 September 1976 in Duisburg-Wedau (Germany FR).

International Youth Tournament 1976

On 31 March 1976, half the number of countries to qualify for the final phase of the International Youth Tournament of the European Football Union (UEFA) were known. The Tournament itself is to take place from 28 May to 6 June 1976 in Hungary. The countries qualified so far are: Finland, Denmark, Northern Ireland, Wales, Italy, the Netherlands and France. Only the organising country, Hungary, is qualified "ex officio".

Results of the qualifying matches:

Group 1			
23.3.76	Netherlands v. Ireland Rep.	1:0 (1:0)	Victor, Luxemburg
Group 10			
31.3.76	Switzerland v. Portugal	0:0 (0:0)	Aldinger, Germany FR
Group 11			
24.3.76	France v. Malta	1:0 (0:0)	Guruceta, Spain
Group 12			
28.3.76	Liechtenstein v. Spain	1:5 (0:2)	Aldinger, Germany FR
Group 13			
28.3.76	Rumania v. CSSR	1:1 (0:0)	Sergienko, USSR
Group 14			
28.3.76	Yugoslavia v. Bulgaria	2:2 (1:0)	Dilek, Turkey
Group 15			
31.3.76	Austria v. Turkey	1:1 (0:0)	Nagy, Hungary

News from National Associations

ALGERIA

African Games in Algiers (F)
The Organising Committee of the 3rd
African Games in Algiers has announced
that the opening ceremony will take
place on 15 July 1978 and the closing
ceremony on 30 July 1978.

ICELAND

Sporting People (E)
Nearly every fifth Icelander is a member of one of the 245 sports clubs on the island. Approximately 40,000 men and women are affiliated to the Sports Confederation. Football is among the 18 sports disciplines and holds first place followed by handball.

ETHIOPIA

Resignation and Nominations (E) Mr. Y. Tessema, founder member of the Ethiopian Football Federation in 1943 and its Honorary Secretary General for 33 years has resigned from his post as a result of his nomination as Commissioner for Sports.

He is the only "Honorary Member" of the Ethiopian Football Federation.

The Ethiopian Football Federation expresses its gratitude to Mr. Tessema for the exceptional service he has rendered to the establishment and the development of Football in Ethiopia.

Mr. Tesgaw Ayele, Member of the Executive Committee of the Ethiopian Football Federation has been elected as the new "Honorary Secretary General".

Mr. Kassa G. Giorgis, former assistant Secretary General has been appointed as Permanent General Secretary.

USA (E)

The American Bicentennial Soccer Cup To celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the USA, the US Soccer Federation is organising the American Bicentennial Soccer Cup in which the national teams of Brazil, England and Italy will participate, together with "team America" formed by the best American and foreign professionals playing in the United States.

"Team America" will be composed of "the players most representative of the best professional soccer played in the United States", President Gene Edwards said. It may include players like Pele, Bobby Moore, George Best, Bob Smith and Bob Rigby of Cosmos, Rodney Marsh from Tampa Bay Rowdies, etc. The tournament will begin on Sunday

The tournament will begin on Sunday afternoon, 23 May, with Team America

playing Italy in Washington's Robert F. Kennedy Stadium. Brazil will face England in the Los Angeles Coliseum later that afternoon.

Two games will be played the following Friday evening, 28 May. England will battle Italy in the Yankee Stadium, New York and Team America will take on Brazil in Seattle's Kingdome.

The 31 May holiday games will match Team America against the England national team at noon in Philadelphia's John F. Kennedy Stadium, followed by the national teams of Brazil and Italy at 3 p.m. in New York's Yankee Stadium. It will be the first appearance in the United States of the Brazilian and Italian national teams.

The tournament has been certified as an official Bicentennial event by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration (ARBA).

sponsored by the United States Soccer Federation", said Carlos Campbell, ARBA's director of sports events. "Because of the universal language of soccer and the class of the nations competing, it will undoubtedly help focus great world-wide attention on our Bicentennial observance."

USSF President Gene Edwards said that the North American Soccer League clubs in each of the cities where American Bicentennial Soccer Cup games will be played will coordinate tournament activities there. They are: the Los Angeles Aztecs, New York Cosmos, and Washington Diplomats.

Net proceeds from the American Bicentennial Soccer Cup will go to the development of youth soccer, coaching programmes and the United States National Team which will enter 1978 World Cup qualifying games this fall.

The programme is as follows:

THE PROBLE	mme is as follows.	
23.5.76	Washington	1.00 p.m.
	America v. Italy	
23.5.76	Los Angeles	2.30 p.m.
	England v. Brazil	
28.5.76	New York	8.00 p.m.
	England v. Italy	
28.5.76	Seattle	8.00 p.m.
	America v. Brazil	
31.5.76	Philadelphia	12 noon
	America v. Engla	nđ
31.5.76	New Heaven	3.00 p.m.
	Brazil v. Italy	•

North American Soccer League Season opened 14 April

from NASL News Release "We are delighted that this is being The North American Soccer League entered its last week of pre-season play in preparation for the 1976 season with expectations of hosting its largest crowd ever, perhaps the largest in the history of American soccer.

The New York Cosmos and Seattle Sounders met on 9 April 1976 in the Kingdome, Seattle, Washington (3:1) with a new attendance record of 58.128. Santos of Brazil and Inter-Milan of Italy attracted over 41,598 fans to Yankee Stadium in 1966. Hokoah of Vienna and a New York All Star team drew an estimated 46,000 at the Polo Grounds in 1976. The previous best Philadelphia Atoms, Seattle Sounders NASL crowd was 35,620, New York at Washington, 1975.

The 1976 regular season opened on 14 April when the St. Louis Stars visited San Antonio.

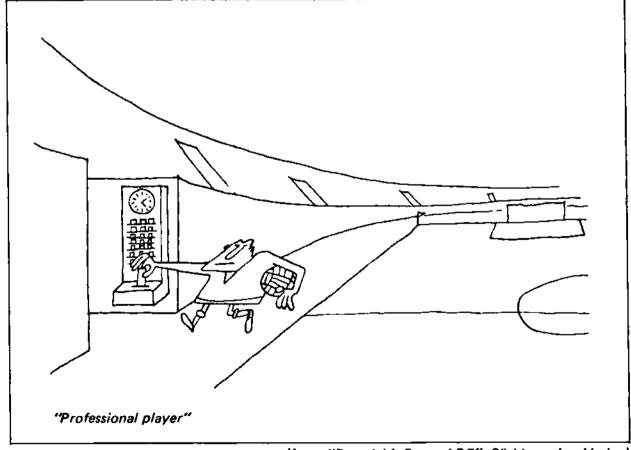
The NASL enters 1976 with 20 franchises located from Miami to Vancouver and San Diego to Boston. This is the same number as last year and makes the NASL the third largest professional league in North America.

A schedule of 240 games will be played between 14 April and 15 August and the championship game, Soccer Bowl '76, will be played on 28 August in Seattle. In last year's championship, Tampa Bay defeated Portland 2:0 in San Jose, California.

In addition to the 35,620 fans in Washington last year, the NASL set other attendance marks which will be challenged this year. An NASL playoff record 33,503 witnessed the Portland v. St. Louis playoff game in the Oregon City and San Jose led the league in attendance with a 17,927 average, 95 % of its stadium capacity. Total attendance was 1,800,000.

Meeting of two "Football Giants"

The New York v. Seattle game brought together Pele and Geoff Hurst, the hero of England's 1966 World Cup victory over Germany FR - Hurst had a hat trick in England's 4:2 overtime win in the Final. He currently plays with West Bromwich Albion.



(from "Benedek's Sport ABC", Süddeutscher Verlag)

Saudi Arabian Friendship Cup

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia — 26.12.75-9.1.76

Date	Match	Result	Referee
Date	Match	Résultat	Arbitre
Fecha	<i>Partido</i>	Resultado	Arbitro
Datum	Spiel	Resultat	Schiedsrichter
26.12.75	Saudi Arabia v. Egypt	0:2 (0:0)	Taleb Ballan, Qatar
27.12.75	Turkey v. Italy	0:0 (0:0)	Fahad Aldahmash, S. Arabia
2 8.12.75	Austria v. Algeria	2:0 (1:0)	M. Almarzouk, Saudi Arabia
29.12.75	Egypt v. Italy	1:1 (1:1)	I. Alhalabi, Saudi Arabia
30.12.75	Saudi Arabia v. Austria	1:1 (1:0)	Riza Haidary, Iran
31.12.75	Algeria v. Turkey	1:1 (1:1)	Ghazi Kayal, Saudi Arabia
1. 1,76	Austria v. Egypt	0:0 (0:0)	A. Almozan, Saudi Arabia
2. 1.76	Italy v. Algeria	1:1 (0:1)	F. Aldamash, Saudi Arabia
3. 1.76	Saudi Arabia v. Turkey	1:0 (1:0)	Taleb Ballan, Qatar
4. 1.76	Egypt v. Algeria	0:1 (0:1)	Riza Haidary, Iran
5. 1.76	Austria v. Turkey	1:0 (0:0)	A. Aldaham, Saudi Arabia
6. 1.76	Saudi Arabia v. Italy	0:1 (0:1)	J.K. Taylor, England
7. 1.76	Turkey v. Egypt	0:2 (0:0)	Taleb Ballan, Qatar
8. 1.76	Italy v. Austria	1:0(:)	J.K. Taylor, England
9. 1.76	Saudi Arabia v. Algeria	1:3 (0:1)	I. Alhalabi, Saudi Arabia

4th Arabian Gulf Tournament

Doha, Qatar - 26.3-11.4.76

2 6.3.76	Saudi Arabia v. Qatar	0:1 (0:1)	Subhi Adib Ezat, Iraq
2 7.3.76	Iraq v. Oman	4:0 (1:0)	A.R. Al-Dahm, Saudi Arabia
27. 3.76	Bahrain v. U.A. Emirates	3:2 (0:0)	A.R. Al-Bakr, Kuwait
28.3.76	Kuwait v. Qatar	4:0 (2:0)	Subhi Adib Ezat, Iraq
29.3.76	Iraq v. Bahra in	4:1 (2:1)	A.R. Al-Bakr, Kuwait
2 9.3,76	Saudi Arabia v. U.A. Emirates	2:0 (1:0)	Al-Alawi Abdul Ghaffar, Bahrain
31.3.76	Kuwait v. Oman	8:0 (4:0)	Taleb Ballan, Qatar
1.4.76	Qatar v. U.A. Emirates	3:1 (2:0)	A.R. Al-Bakr, Kuwait
1.4.76	Saudi Arabia v. Iraq	1:7 (0:4)	H. Seoudi, Tunisia
2.4 .76	Oman v. Bahrain	0:1 (0:0)	Subhi Adib Ezat, Iraq
3.4.76	Qatar v. Iraq	0:0 (0:0)	H. Seoudi, Tunisia
3.4.76	Kuwait v. U.A. Emirates	0:0 (0:0)	Mubarak Waleed, Qatar
4.4.76	Oman v. Saudi Arabia	1:3 (1:2)	A.M. Hassan, U.A. Emirates
6.4.7 6	Kuwait v. Bahrain	5:2 (3:2)	H. Seoudi, Tunisia
6.4.76	U.A. Emirates v. Iraq	0:4 (0:4)	A.K. Owais, Algeria
7.4.76	Oman v. Qatar	1:4 (1:2)	Subhi Adib Ezat, Iraq
8.4.76	Kuwait v. Irag	2:2 (0:0)	A.K. Owais, Algeria
8.4.76	Saudi Arabia v. Bahrain	1:2 (1:0)	Sabahuldeen Ladikly, Turkey
10.4.76	U.A. Emirates v. Oman	1:1 (0:0)	Moubarak Walid, Qatar
10.4.76	Bahrain v. Qatar	0:3 (0:0)	Subhi Adib Ezat, Iraq
11.4.76	Kuwait v. Saudi Arabia	3:1 (2:0)	A.K. Owais, Algeria
15.4.76	Kuwait v. Iraq	4:2 (3:1)	H. Seoudi, Tunisia

Books received / Livres reçus / Libros recibidos / Erhaltene Bücher

Khartoum 1957 — Addis 1976. La grande aventure du football africain Mahjoub Faouzi, "Champion d'Afrique", 23, rue Daubenton, 75005 Paris

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Forthcoming International Matches / Futurs matches inter-nations ** Futuros partidos internacionales / Kommende internationale Spiele

Category "A"

30.4.76	Switzerland v. Hungary
11.5.76	Sweden v. Denmark
19.5.76	Norway v. Iceland
19.5.76	Finland v. Switzerland
2.6.76	Finland v. Sweden
13.6.76	. Finland v. England
11.8.7 6	Sweden v. Finland
25.8.76	Denmark v. Norway
1.9.76	Denmark v. France
8.9.7 6	Sweden v. Hungary
22.9.76	Denmark v. Italy
13.10.76	Austria v. Hungary
13.10.76	Sweden v. Poland

Results International Matches ** Résultats Matches Inter-Nations **Resultados Partidos Internacionales** Resultate von Internationalen Spielen

Date Date Fecha Datum	Match Match Partido Spiel	Result Résultat Resultado Resultat	Referee Arbitre Arbitro Schiedsrichter			
Category '	'A''					
20.3.76	USSR v. Argentina	0:1 (0:1)	S. Gonella, Italy			
21.3.76	Ivory Coast v. Senegal	4:1 (2:0)	A. Tanon, Ivory Coast			
24.3.76	Wales v. England	1:2 (0:0)	I. Foote, Scotland			
24.3.76	Poland v. Argentina	1:2 (0:0)	E. Dörflinger, Switzerland			
24.3.76	Ireland Rep. v. Norway	3:0 (2:0)	P. Partridge, England			
24.3.76	Bulgaria v. USSR	0:3 (0:1)	S. Petri, Hungary			
27.3.76	Luxemburg v. France B	0:2 (0:1)	J. Redelfs, Germany FR			
27.3.76	Hungary v. Argentina	2:0 (2:0)	G. Menegali, Italy			
27.3.76	France v. Czechoslovakia	2:2 (1:0)	F. Rion, Belgium			
28.3,76	Gabon v. Ivory Coast	0:3 (0:2)	A. Tanon, Ivory Coast			
7.4.76	Scotland v. Switzerland	1:0 (1:0)	P. Partridge, England			
7.4.76	China Rep. v. Philippines	0:1 (0:1)	H.R. Landauer, USA			
7.4.76	Italy v. Portugal	3:1 (1:0)	K. Palotai, Hungary			
8.4.76	Argentina v. Üruguay	4:1 (1:0)	A.A. Ithurralde, Argentina			
Category '	'B''					
4,4.76	Senegal v. Guinea Bissau	6:1 (3:0)	M.S. Conteh, Sierra Leone			
Category '	"Under 23" / Moins de 23 ans	/ Sub-23 / Ur	nter-23			
23.3.76	England v. Hungary	3:1 (1:1)	R. Schaut, Belgium			
23.3.76	Rumania v. German DR	2:2 (0:1)	B. Trandafilov, Bulgaria			
6.4.76	German DR v. CSSR	0:1 (0:0)	M. Srodecki, Poland			
Category '	Category "Amateurs" / Aficionados					
7.4.76	Germany FR v. Denmark u.23	1:0 (0:0)	M. Herrmann, Luxemburg			
Category '	"Youth" / Juniors / Juveniles	/ Junioren				
23.3.76 4.4.76	Netherlands v. Ireland Rep. Germany FR v. Sweden	1:0 (1:0) 0:0 (0:0)	A. Victor, Luxemburg J. Poucek, Czechoslovakia			

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