

June • July | 2020

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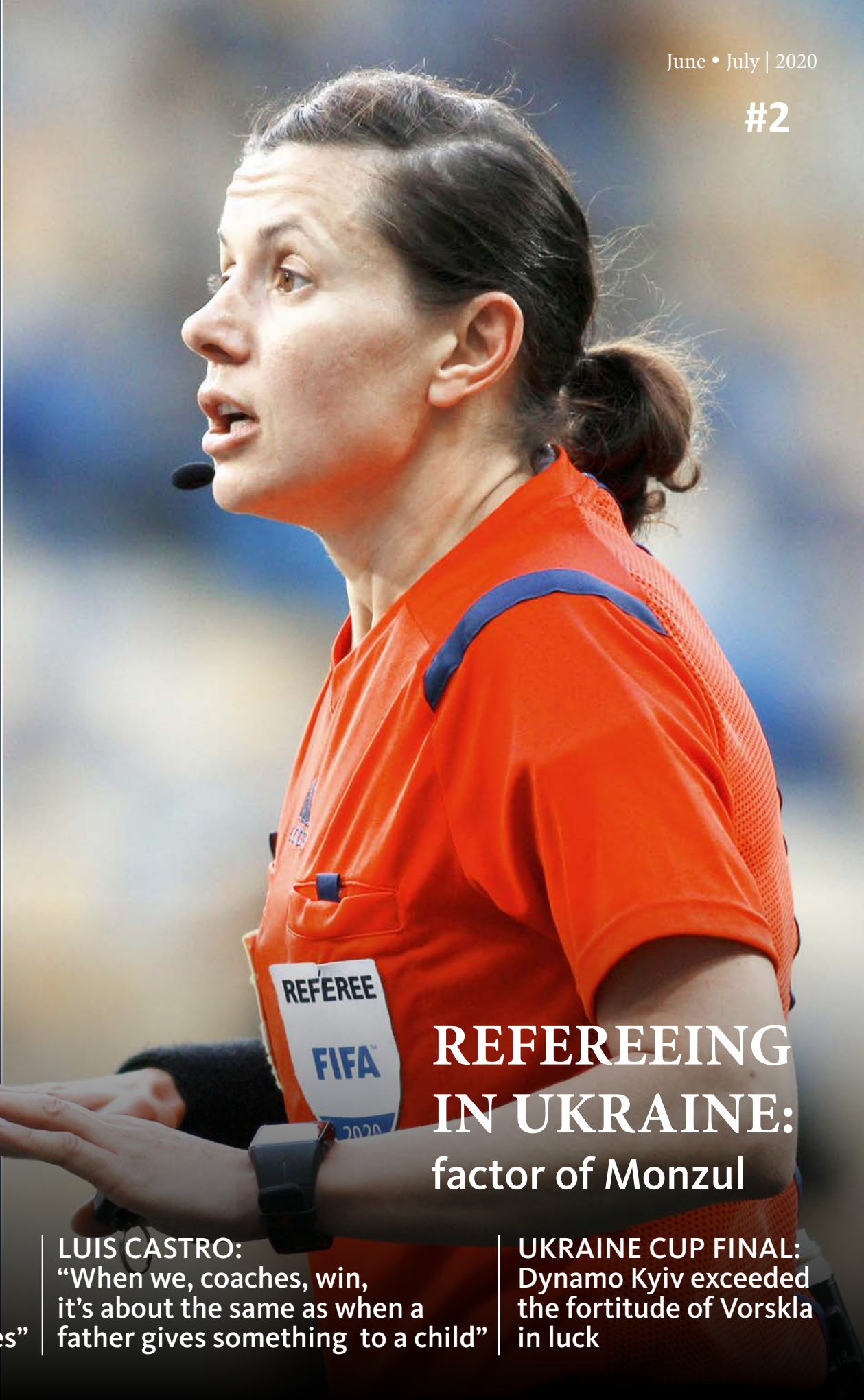
PITCH POINT

REFEREEING IN UKRAINE: factor of Monzul

ANDRII
PAVELKO:
“New tasks
and perspectives”

LUIS CASTRO:
“When we, coaches, win,
it’s about the same as when a
father gives something to a child”

UKRAINE CUP FINAL:
Dynamo Kyiv exceeded
the fortitude of Vorskla
in luck





PITCH POINT

online football magazine

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QUOTES:
komandaonline.com,
footballua.tv,
francefootball.fr,
uaf.ua, uefa.com,
football24.ua

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STRATEGY

DESPITE THE PANDEMIC CRISIS AND MANY OBSTACLES ONGOING, THE KEY PRIORITIES OF THE UKRAINIAN ASSOCIATION OF FOOTBALL REMAIN UNCHANGED. THIS WAS STATED BY ITS PRESIDENT ANDRII PAVELKO

Andrii PAVELKO: New challenges and priorities



Our next strategic directions remain unchanged. New football fields and stadiums are appearing all over the country. Although there were those with enough scepticism about our infrastructure strategy. But today it is a fact that almost 4,000 football facilities were built in four years. We are proud of it! This is our achievement! In the context of war, the economic crisis, constant information attacks, and now also in a pandemic. But we are not building new stadiums and venues for beautiful reports. Now our main goal is to turn a million boys and girls to football by 2024.

Achievements of our football legends, in particular, the three Ukrainian Golden Ball holders (Oleh Blokhin, Ihor Belanov and Andrii Shevchenko), are the best examples for

educating new champions. I am sure that among the boys and girls who come to study at new venues and stadiums, future champions and Golden Ball winners will grow, which all Ukraine will be proud of! Now each of the regional associations receives assistance from the UAF to support its activities. At the end of last year, we turned out to be a very timely decision to double such assistance for each regional association - up to UAH 1,200,000 per year. Some of these funds can be used to overcome the effects of the pandemic.

In recent years, the UAF has sent over 100,000 balls to the regions from our official partner - Joma. It is planned that under the new contract until 2024, supplies will increase to 200,000 balls.

We agree with UEFA that we need to put more effort into women's football growth to reveal its potential. In March, a strategic plan for the development of women's football for 2020-2024 was approved and a decision was made that from 2021/2022 UPL and PFL clubs will receive a license, providing women's teams in their structures.

It was also decided to gradually increase the members of the Premier League to 16 clubs. Despite the emergency circumstances, happening this year, this decision, I want to emphasize, is unchanged. We plan to finish the season, and not finish it ahead of schedule, as some countries did. Our next step is to return fans to the stands.

Invariable is our priority for the development of football

infrastructure. We support the initiative of President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyi to open 100 stadiums in the state throughout the year. In this direction, we have already begun active cooperation.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced to postpone or cancel the competitions, to suspend most of the projects, and this was a difficult test for Ukrainian football. However, we must maintain a positive attitude and self-confidence. The championships in the Premier League, the First League and the Women's Higher League were resumed. The Ukrainian Cup final, which took place recently, was fantastically intriguing.

Football unites Ukraine, and new challenges make our team only stronger!



REFEREEING

MONZUL factor

In a decent society, it is customary to thank for the quality work of the one who performed it well. Ukrainian football referees rarely receive words of gratitude, even if they did their job well. A fresh example occurred recently when the Dynamo Kyiv head coach Oleksii Mykhailichenko, after an away defeat in the 28th round of the UPL from Desna (2:3), issued a strange remark to the women's team of referees, headed by Kateryna Monzul from Kharkiv. Cold blood and impartiality became main to her assignments, and this is of paramount importance in Ukrainian football realities.

It should be said that the pressure on the referees increased even more after the video assistant system (VAR) was launched in Ukraine in 2020, although in theory, the opposite should have happened.

The main negative points were the frequent interruptions of matches for

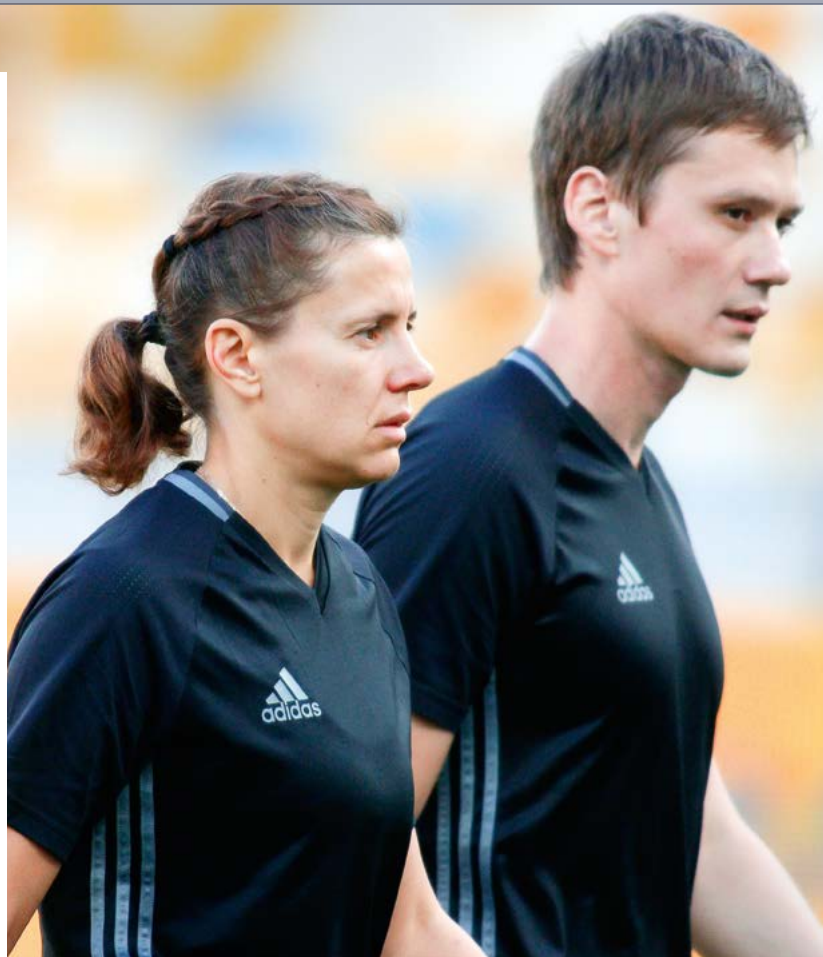
reviewing controversial decisions, which are also periodically delayed beyond measure, as well as differences in the interpretation of the players' sending-off. In all this whirlpool, the first role in the refereeing quality went to Kateryna Monzul from Kharkiv. Cold blood and impartiality became main to her assignments, and this is of paramount importance in Ukrainian football realities.

From start to debut

By her admission, Kateryna spent all her childhood years on the football field: "It all started from the age of six. I had my house located next to the stadium. You wake up in the morning, leave the house and go straight on the pitch. At first, I got into yard football, and only then I started watching matches on TV".

In the matter of further relations with her favourite game, the girl faced a choice: keep up playing football or to start refereeing. "I chose to referee. My family is all through this. My uncle was a referee. My godfather's husband is also closely associated with refereeing. I tried it once and I liked it. The path from the





"I chose to referee. My family is all through this. My uncle was a referee. My godfather's husband is also closely associated with refereeing. I tried it once and I liked it. The path from the beginning to the debut in the First League took 11 years"

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Style

The way a football referee acts during a match speaks of how this person was brought up, what his inner world is. Kateryna Monzul is a good example of this. Her main principles are workability, honest attitude to the chosen occupation and professionalism.

"You have to remain human in any situation and

love what you are doing", – Monzul is sure, every time proving this kind of approach.

"Voice raise is optional.

There are many methods to get in touch with a player. You can come closer and calmly say that the person hears (as it was with Dynamo Kyiv Benjamin Verbic – ed. note). It all depends on a single situation or match. Everyone needs an individual approach. It is important to know the character of the

player in advance, to study him and find a way to influence", – Monzul believes.

Character

The ability to think critically is another important feature of Kateryna.

— There is an excitement, anxiety and work on mistakes after every match. Every time I'm dissatisfied with something. I think to myself: "At this moment, I should act another way" After the match, an analysis of the refereeing

and conclusions are drawn – how to act better in the next game.

What is this talking about? First of all, about impartiality, because a referee who knows in advance how to consciously influence the outcome of a match does not, by definition, feel remorse.

The top referee also needs a strong character, determination and self-confidence, which Monzul succeeded like no other among her male colleagues.



This is the key to everything. Without this, she, most likely, could not have risen to the highest level. She clearly understands that people will not always agree with what she does on the field. Football gets faster and more demanding, so a great pressure falls on the referee, which she learned to withstand. Katerina Monzul goes her way in football. It is quite thorny, but a constant overcoming of difficulties made her almost the best football referee in Ukraine at the moment.

Monzul still has a lot of important challenges ahead. In the meantime, we ascertain the fact – a charismatic referee has appeared in Ukrainian football judiciary, who, going out to any match with her work, shows unchanging respect for herself, players and fans.

PP



IN FOCUS



A NEW STAGE OF THE FIGHT AGAINST MATCH-FIXING

THE UKRAINIAN ASSOCIATION OF FOOTBALL CONTINUES TO UNCOMPROMISINGLY CLEANSE DOMESTIC FOOTBALL OF MATCHES WITH FIXING RESULTS. THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN EXTREMELY BUSY AND PRODUCTIVE IN REDUCING THE NUMBER OF GAMES WITH MATCH-FIXING. ALSO, THE UAF ETHICS AND FAIR PLAY COMMITTEE, WHICH HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF THIS IMPORTANT MISSION FOR SEVERAL YEARS, HAS DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED A REVOLUTIONARY SOLUTION THAT WILL HELP REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD OF SUCH MATCHES TO A MINIMUM IN THE FUTURE

In general, the committee, headed by the experienced Francesco Baranca, focuses on monitoring the observance of ethical principles by players and makes efforts to prevent manipulation of the results of matches. Regarding the statistics of matches with fixing results, their number in 2019 decreased to 41. While in 2018 it was almost twice as high - 77. In its work, the committee uses as UEFA monitoring for the biggest competitions, as well as its monitoring of the situation for youth, women's, amateur and friendly matches.

Earlier this year, the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne put an end to the case against the youth teams of FC Olimpik Donetsk, supporting and upholding the decisions of the UAF football justice authorities. Disciplinary

decisions have also been taken against six First League referees and one player (the Aranovskyi case) to be suspended from any football-related activity for a period of 2 to 10 years. The football justice authorities have been recently considering three more cases of the committee.

One of the committee's achievements is the conclusion of the UAF Marketing exclusive agreement with the provider company on the establishment of a controlled and secure system of broadcasting matches to bookmakers. According to the plan, UAF and clubs will have information from the provider about the identity of the scout and will provide him with a place in the stadium for the statistical broadcast of the match. In case of detection of suspicious bets

or receipt of other operative information, at the request of the committee the company provider and scout will stop broadcasting data to bookmakers, preventing the further placement of illegal bets. All scouts who do not register with the provider company will be identified and expelled from the venues. Thus, the committee plans to further reduce the number of matches with match-fixing by establishing safe and mutually beneficial working conditions for providers. There are currently no analogues of using such

tools in world practice. The main goals of the committee for 2020 are to establish effective cooperation with the provider company and its scouts; to complete already existing disciplinary proceedings in the bodies of football justice administration and appeal with new cases; to launch educational lectures for professional footballers and future players; to create a database of matches with fixing results and their participants.





VAR IN UKRAINE IS REALITY!

FOR THE FIRST TIME, UAF PRESIDENT ANDRII PAVELKO SPOKE ABOUT THE NEED TO INTRODUCE THE VAR SYSTEM IN UKRAINIAN FOOTBALL A FEW YEARS AGO. AT THE BEGINNING OF 2019, ACTIVE WORK ON THE VAR IMPLEMENTATION IN UKRAINE BEGAN



Ukrainian referees began training seminars to work with the VAR system at the winter camp in January 2019. The UAF Referees Committee chairman Luciano Luci and UAF scientific and methodological expert Victor Derdo introduced them background and philosophy of the VAR system, which motto is “Minimum interventions - maximum benefits”. Emphasis was placed on the interaction of the referees with the VAR system, on what and how the referee should do if it is necessary to turn to this procedure. Also, the assistant referees, working under the UEFA instructor Giovanni Stevanato, considered another interesting topic - “The courage of the assistant not to raise the flag during

a controversial offside in a situation where the VAR system is working”. Already on May 15 in Zaporizhzhya before the final match of the Ukrainian Cup 2018/2019 the necessary equipment for VAR implementation was presented. There were still many procedures and approvals to be included in the list of requirements required to run the VAR. In particular, it was the approval and signing of a memorandum with FIFA and IFAB, referees training, technology and equipment testing and, evaluation of the done work by FIFA and IFAB specialists. The next stage was the decision of the UAF Executive Committee, which supported the draft amendments to the Ukrainian Premier



League Regulations, adjusting the procedure for implementing the VAR system in championship matches. The relevant decision was made by the Executive Committee on July 10. In particular, the meeting decided that the VAR will be used offline in UPL matches during the first round of the 2019/2020 season.

A significant breakthrough in the implementation of VAR in Ukraine occurred in November. On November 1, for the first time in Ukraine, the system was tested live at an official match. The Ukrainian championship U-19 game Dynamo (Kyiv) - Karpaty (Lviv) became the first with VAR system in live mode.

The use of VAR in live mode was another step towards the full implementation

of the system in Ukrainian football. At the same time, IFAB representatives arrived in Ukraine and gave a positive assessment of the results of six months of referees training and VAR testing. The UAF Referees Committee received a positive report on the successful preparation for the use of technology, which was reflected in the report of the head of the FIFA football technology department Sebastian Runge.

In December, UAF General Secretary Yuriy Zapisotskyi signed a letter to FIFA and UEFA with an application for permission to use the VAR in Ukraine. UAF has got a van with six workplaces, where the system was mounted, two EVS servers to provide video replays. Eleven trained referees

have been authorized to work with the VAR - eight men and three women who have passed UEFA certification.

Later in December, a commission comprising the UAF First Vice-President Oleh Protasov, the UAF Referees Committee chairman Luciano Luci and the UPL Executive Director Yevhen Dykyi was set up to determine the matches for the VAR team.

Dynamo Kyiv - Vorskla UPL 19th round match became historic - the first top flight's game in Ukraine, where the VAR system was used.

Furthermore, VAR assisted the referees in two matches per round and was also used at all Ukrainian Cup stages, starting from quarterfinals.

Further plans to implement VAR in Ukraine include the use of the system in all UPL matches starting in 2021/2022.

"We have come a long way, having received the appropriate permits for the VAR implementation from FIFA and IFAB. A lot of work has been done to make that happen, and I am grateful to everyone involved. This has been a difficult project, but it was the Ukrainian Association of Football that got funding realizing that without VAR we could stay on the sidelines of European football. Today VAR in Ukraine is a reality. And this is not only prestige but also the step of our football to a new level", - said UAF President Andrii Pavelko.

PP

COVID-19 PANDEMIC: *BATTLE WON, WAR AHEAD*

THE UKRAINIAN ASSOCIATION OF FOOTBALL HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE FIGHT AGAINST THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC



In just about six months, the life of the world has changed dramatically. The COVID-19 pandemic has virtually put almost all countries on the brink of war. Wars for the health of mankind and the future of the world. For two and a half months, normal life came to a standstill in Ukraine as well, and we all held our breath and

watched the struggle of doctors and medical staff, who were at the forefront of this war, for human lives.

The Ukrainian Association of Football could not stay away from this global disaster, sending assistance to those who need it most - doctors, veterans, elderly people and soldiers of the Ukrainian army.

The UAF has launched an initiative to transfer all its vehicles, received from the exclusive car sponsor of the national football team of Ukraine, Winner, to the Main Military Hospital. Every morning, UAF drivers pick up doctors from home and help them get to work, and in the evening, they take them home. Besides, thousands of coronavirus

tests were transferred to hospitals in the Kyiv region by the Ukrainian Association of Football. UAF assisted the capital's clinics, including the Kyiv Military Clinical Hospital in arranging rooms with ventilators. Not to mention the food kits for doctors, wounded and sick soldiers who found themselves in medical facilities.



The UAF initiative was joined by 26 regional associations, which handed over their vehicles to headquarters established in the regions to combat the spread of coronavirus. Personal medical

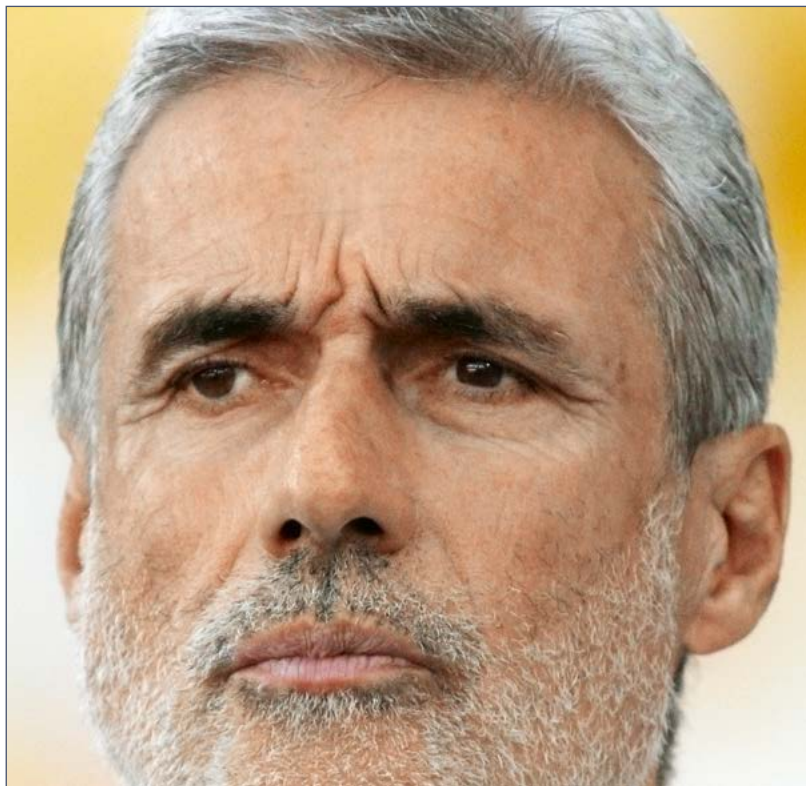
care, utensils, food, delicacies, football equipment, gifts, souvenirs, as well as necessary household items for daily use - such sets every few days UAF and regional football associations passed

to medical institutions in the country. Words of gratitude in these difficult times for the whole country were repeatedly addressed to the whole Ukrainian football commu-

nity. But the most important is the saved lives of doctors and Ukrainian people, as well as the won battle against an unexpected and extremely dangerous enemy. **PP**

Luis CASTRO:

WHEN WE,
THE COACHES,
WIN, IT'S
ABOUT THE
SAME AS A
FATHER GIVES
SOMETHING
TO A CHILD



SHAKHTAR DONETSK HEAD COACH LUIS CASTRO TOLD HOW HE MANAGED TO LEAD THE TEAM IN HIS FIRST YEAR TO THE TITLE OF CHAMPION OF UKRAINE

ATYPICAL SEASON

There were very difficult moments over this year. For the first time in my life, such an atypical season. Most often they are the same, with the same dates, nothing changes much. And now it's completely different. The first feeling that possessed us was that we were a bit selfish. Sometimes we forget that the most important thing is not us, but humanity, everything that is happening in the world now. And in those moments when

it was said that the championship might not continue, we had 13 points clear. I have been waiting so many years to become a champion. Now the feeling is like a mountain off my shoulders. We won the UPL championship. The basis of our success were four victories in a row over Dynamo Kyiv. Unfortunately, it did not work out in the Ukrainian Cup. But we achieved the main goal, and this happened thanks to the excellent performance of our



players in all the matches of the championship.

It is a very pleasant sense of accomplishment, based on club expectations and ambitions.

The joy was just great. When we, coaches, win, it's about the same as a father gives something to a child. The father is happier when giving than the son who accepts the gift. I felt such joy - for everyone who is around me. And, of course, before, Shakhtar had a huge number of fans at

the stadium. If in Donetsk the Donbas Arena was filled with 40 thousand spectators, now we are not at home, but four or five thousand fans at each match.

FIRST, I WEIGH THE PROS AND CONS

I don't worry about young players and I don't want to compare my work with what Fonseca or Lucescu did. I'm only interested in my story, and I'm not afraid to use young players. If a young play-

er represents Shakhtar, then he deserves it, being in the right conditions. If you put a player who is not ready, then you only bury him.

I like my players, but it is important to look at things. It happens that a coach comes in and after a month says: "These are not right players", "I can't work with them", "I need to leave". I can't do that. I should have said this when I agreed to lead the club. First, I weigh the pros and cons. I have no right to say later that

"I want this and that." If I lose a player, what can I do? I need to train new players.

Would I like to have Taison all the time? I would like to. Would I like to constantly have Stepanenko? Sure. Yes, I do not want to sell anyone, but if someone is released, then what can I do?

In football, there is always a contract and the transfer value of a certain player. These are the rules that must be followed. Taison is a fantastic player. His presence on the



I am sure that we are all a strong and solid family, despite the fact of being far from each other



field is always felt. Its importance is not discussed. I like that he has stayed. There are players we are preparing for the future. Experienced players will leave, but the indispensable ones do not exist. In one day, each of us will have a child replacing us. Of course, we will be upset when Taison and Marlos finish their careers. These are players who show very bright football. Such performers are not forgotten.

SHAKHTAR'S FEATURE

Shakhtar has its distinctive feature and it consists in the fact

that many of the team's players are Brazilians. Of course, the club also has a variety of the best Ukrainian talents, which creates a mixture of different nationalities and generations. I would say that it is from 50 to 50 at Shakhtar. The creativity and genius of the Brazilians is something special for Shakhtar. On the other hand, Ukrainian players can have a more natural rigour and strength, which contributes to interesting cohabitation in a team. Brazilians have different skills, and adaptation is facilitated by the environment.

Players can easily understand each other and make friends speaking the same language. This creates a warm atmosphere in the team. We are a strong and solid family. Many fans suffer from the fact that they cannot be at our matches. The club has left its city, but we can give some joy at least from afar,

and this is just a fantastic feeling. I am sure that we are all a strong and solid family, despite the fact of being far from each other. The situation in the world now does not allow us to be together. I'm not interested in someone signing me, I only think about Shakhtar. When the contract ends, I will consider other proposals. I have



always been very calm, but I know that I will always have an offer.

If I leave the team, then I will have work, and Shakhtar will remain as they are. Its future does not depend on the coach, only on the president. No coach can influence this club. Shakhtar has its project, which was built by the president. Not a single

coach-newcomer will need to create something new, he will already live inside the project.

I have another year of a deal with Shakhtar, and I am very happy in this club. There have been several goals in my career that I have already fulfilled here. The personal one is to play in the Cham-

I don't worry about young players and I don't want to compare my work with what Fonseca or Lucescu did. I'm only interested in my story, and I'm not afraid to use young players

pions League as the Europa League has already been with Porto. Performing in a competition like the Champions League is fantastic!

It's great that we became champions because this was my priority goal after coming to Ukraine!

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P

NEW CHALLENGES



REVOLUTIONARY CHANGES IN UKRAINIAN WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

THE FIRST DAYS OF SPRING WERE FATEFUL FOR WOMEN'S FOOTBALL IN UKRAINE. THE UKRAINIAN ASSOCIATION OF FOOTBALL HAS DEVELOPED A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN'S FOOTBALL FOR 2020-2024, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE UAF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2020

An important point in the roadmap for its further development will be the mandatory integration with men's football, which aims to reform the structures of professional football clubs according to European and world standards.

In particular, the UAF Executive Committee has introduced requirements regarding the obligation of the Ukrainian Premier League and the Professional Football League clubs to support women's / girls' teams or to run such teams in the structure of professional clubs.

According to the approved strategy, in the 2020/2021 season, UPL and PFL First league clubs must register at least 20 players under the age of 16. In the season 2021/2022, UPL and PFL First league clubs must register at least 30 players under 17 and sign a cooperation agreement with the women's team of the Higher / First / Second league of the Ukrainian Women's Championship or have a women's Higher / First league team within the club.

The UAF decision on the development of women's football within the structures of professional clubs is unprecedented and has historical significance. Until now, women's football in the country existed separately from men's football and had neither a decent financial foundation nor broad support from fans.

The strategic development plan will promote the favourite game of millions among girls, create good conditions for them to have football lessons and the inevitable personnel surge, which will increase the competitiveness of national

NEW CHALLENGES



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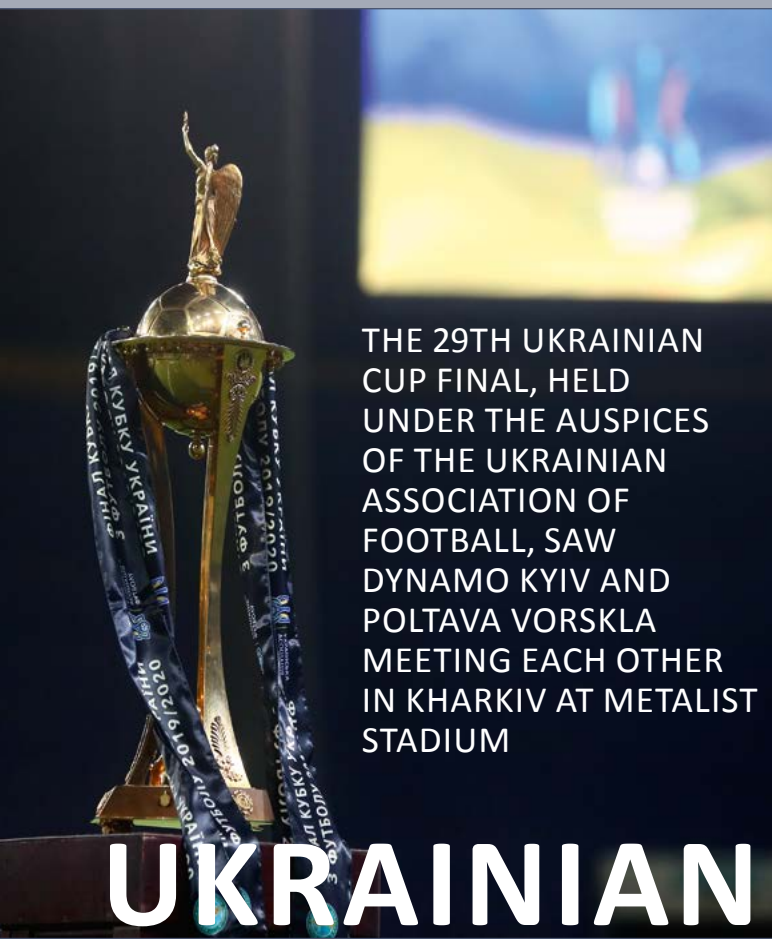
teams of Ukraine of all ages. The development of football among women and girls is the FIFA and UEFA urgent and key priority in the strategy of developing the most popular game on the planet. Olympique Lyonnais, Wolfsburg, Bayern Munich, Barcelona, Atletico Madrid, Arsenal - top European clubs already have women's teams in their structures, which

gather audiences in both national championships and Women's Champions League. The club's interest in this trend is growing every day: in recent years, Juventus and Real Madrid have made their contribution to women's football, adding women's teams and girls' academies to their structures. Finally, this process is beginning to gain momentum in Ukraine!

PP







THE 29TH UKRAINIAN CUP FINAL, HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UKRAINIAN ASSOCIATION OF FOOTBALL, SAW DYNAMO KYIV AND POLTAVA VORSKLA MEETING EACH OTHER IN KHARKIV AT METALIST STADIUM

UKRAINIAN CUP FINAL: DYNAMO EXCEEDED THE FORTITUDE OF VORSKLA IN LUCK

TRIUMPH

Because of the COVID-19 medical protocol, the decisive game was held without spectators and will be remembered by the audience watching it on television broadcasts as a real cup intrigue and a cool football penalty lottery, in which fortune smiled “white and blue” at the very last moment.

In the main time, with a fairly equal game, the score in the 11th minute was opened by Ruslan Stepanyuk, a Poltava player, who took advantage in front of goal after a Kane wing’s cross and a rebound from Serhii Sydorchuk.

The score was equal in the 28th minute. Benjamin Verbic received the ball from Carlos de Pena hit Dmytro Riznyk’s right corner of the goal. In the second half, the initial activity of Vorskla was replaced by the territorial advantage of Dynamo. But the further the game’s time passed, the more the players got tired, and with that, there were fewer chances for a decisive goal. True, in the 70th minute Volodymyr Shepelyev still scored, but this goal was disallowed as the VAR detected an offside to his partner.





The "White-blue" won the Ukrainian Championship 15 times, the Cup 12 times, and have 8 victories in the Ukrainian Super Cup

Everything was decided in the penalty shootout. Seven shots on each side were extremely accurate, and in the eighth Bushchan parried Vadym Sapai's shot. But the nominal guests were immediately saved by Riznyk, who got his fingertips to deny an attempt by Vitalii Mykolenko. A powerful blow of Volodymyr Bayenko off the target and Artem Shabanov's score from the spot brought the trophy to Dynamo Cup - 12th in the club's modern history. After the match, the Dynamo Kyiv head coach Oleksii Mykhailychenko highlighted the main points of the final: - I do not think that such matches should be analyzed. The result was a real cup game - there was intrigue, and nerves, and unconverted moments, and mistakes - all together. There was extra time, there was a penalty shootout. The real ending has turned out! I want to thank Yuri Maksymov and his team:

Vorskla once again showed that it doesn't matter where the team is, in which league it plays - everyone is fighting for the Cup, and everyone has a chance to win in the final. Vorskla head coach Yuri Maksymov, in turn, lamented the lack of fortune from the moment when his club needed it:

- Dynamo was stronger than us, but we were the first to score. Probably, I would not be so upset if the Kyiv team scored a second goal from the game. And so, now it's very disappointing, we lost in the lottery, in the penalty shootout. I have nothing to blame my guys for. They fought on the pitch. But luck was not on our side ...

The triumph in the Ukrainian Cup 2019/20 allowed Dynamo Kyiv to catch up with Shakhtar Donetsk in terms of the number of trophies won in independent Ukraine. Now both clubs have 35. The "White-blue" won the

UKRAINIAN CUP 2019/20. FINAL

07/08/2020. Kharkiv, Metalist stadium

Referee: Kateryna Monzul (Kharkiv)

Dynamo (Kyiv) - Vorskla (Poltava) - 1:1 (pen. - 8:7)

Dynamo: Bushchan - Kedziora, Shabanov, Syrota, Mykolenko, Sydorchuk (c), Shepelyev (Andriyevskiy, 117), Buyalskiy (Shaparenko, 99), Tsitaishvili (60, Tsyhankov), de Pena, Verbic

Vorskla: Riznyk - Perduta, Chesnakov (c), Alyun, Sapai, Sklyar (Sehic, 95), Yakubu (Opanasenko, 73), Puclin, Kane, Kulach (Luizao, 76), Stepanyuk (Bayenko, 115).

Goals: Verbic (28) - Stepanyuk (11)

Penalty shootout: 0:1 - Puclin, 1:1 - Verbic, 1:2 - Kane, 2:2 - Tsyhankov, 2:3 - Luizao, 3:3 - Kedziora, 3:4 - Opanasenko, 4:4 - de Pena, 4:5 - Alyun, 5:5 - Andriyevskiy, 5:6 - Chesnakov, 6:6 - Sydorchuk, 6:7 - Perduta, 7:7 - Shaparenko, 7:7 - Sapai (goalkeeper), 7:7 - Mykolenko (goalkeeper), 7:7 - Bayenko (missed), 8:7 - Shabanov.

Cautioned: Syrota (9), Shabanov (80), Buyalskiy (89), Verbic (113) - Sklyar (41), Perduta (105).

Ukrainian Championship 15 times, the Cup 12 times, and have 8 victories in the Ukrainian Super Cup. The "Miners" 13 times were the best in the Ukrainian

Championship as well as in the Cup, 8 times they took the Super Cup and once won the UEFA Cup.

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DNIPRO RETURNS, ZAPORIZHZHYA EXPANDS THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE MAIN TEAM'S HOME MATCHES

UAF makes every effort to promote top-level football among as many fans as possible. Therefore, in 2019, the national team of Ukraine returned to Dnipro after a long break, and also entered the eighth home venue in its history - Zaporizhzhya. Thus, Slavutych-Arena became the 12th national stadium, which hosted matches of the main team of the country.

The return to Dnipro and the debut in Zaporizhzhya took place last autumn, when Andrii Shevchenko's side held two friendly matches - against Nigeria and Estonia, respectively. The last time Ukraine played at Dnipro-Arena was on October 10, 2009. Then, in the 2010 World Cup qualifiers, our team defeated England 1:0. Serhii Nazarenko scored the only goal for the home team in the 29th minute.

The return to Dnipro also seemed emotional. On September 10, 27,320 fans witnessed a dramatic match against one of the best African sides - Nigeria (2:2). Losing at home by 2 goals, the Ukrainians turned the game around in two minutes and gave their fans a good end to the evening. The friendly match against Estonia (1:0), which took place on November 14 in Zaporizhzhya, became truly historic

for Ukraine and caused quite a stir: all tickets, despite the game's status, were sold out a couple of days before it! In the end, 11,756 spectators supported our team, helping it snatch victory in the last minutes. Besides Zaporizhzhya, only Kyiv (May 1994, Belarus - 3:1) and Lviv (September 2001, Armenia — 3:0) can boast of victories in Ukraine's debut matches.







INFRASTRUCTURE

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT – FOUNDATION OF FOOTBALL FUTURE

IN MARCH 2016, A YEAR AFTER BEING ELECTED THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION'S HEAD, ANDRII PAVELKO ANNOUNCED A KIND OF "MARSHALL PLAN" FOR UKRAINIAN FOOTBALL. THE MAIN GOAL OF THAT PROJECT WAS TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IN FOOTBALL OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL, IT WAS PLANNED TO BUILD 50 STADIUMS AND 2,500 FOOTBALL FIELDS THROUGHOUT UKRAINE

In March 2016, a year after being elected the national association's head, Andrii Pavelko announced a kind of "Marshall Plan" for Ukrainian football. The main goal of that project was to significantly increase the number of people involved in football over the next five years. To achieve that goal, it was planned to build 50 stadiums and 2,500 football fields throughout Ukraine.

In the following years, the entire football community of the country implemented the plan. Already at the beginning of 2019, the plan for new standard size fields was

implemented. But the rate of emergence of new and reconstructed full-size fields with artificial covering in Ukraine in 2019 has not decreased. As for the playgrounds, in 2019, hundreds of new facilities appeared throughout Ukraine. The pace of construction of these infrastructure facilities in 2019 has not slowed down either. Last year, almost half a thousand new playgrounds with artificial covering appeared on the map of Ukraine. The pace of construction could be even greater. But the difficult economic situation in the country, as well as the bad publicity

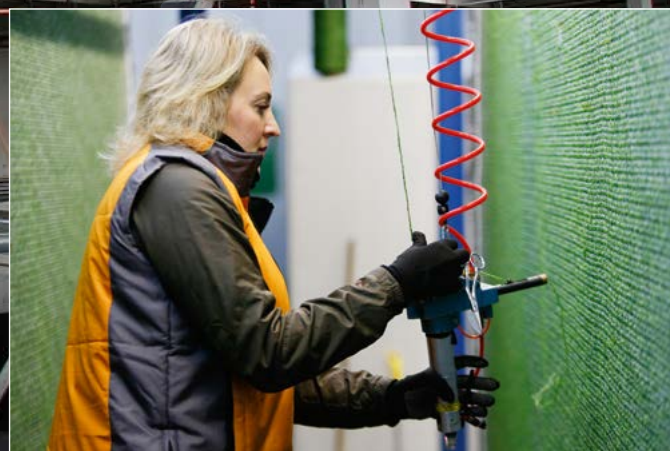
campaign against the program of construction played a negative role.

To increase production efficiency, the FFU Production plant changed its location and moved from Kyiv region to Kramatorsk in Donetsk region. Just in the days of the UAF XXIII Congress, installation and commissioning work on the line for the production of artificial turf at the new location is completed. And there is a real chance that by the end of the year the plan for the construction of playgrounds under the "Marshall Plan" will be fulfilled.

Nevertheless, it can already be

stated that over the past five years, the Ukrainian football community has jointly built and reconstructed more football facilities with the support of the state than in all previous years of independence. There is still 2020 left to turn the rest of the plan into action. But we can already say that the project of modernization of the country's football infrastructure announced in March 2016 has significantly changed the football map of Ukraine. And this allows us to look at our football future with great hope.

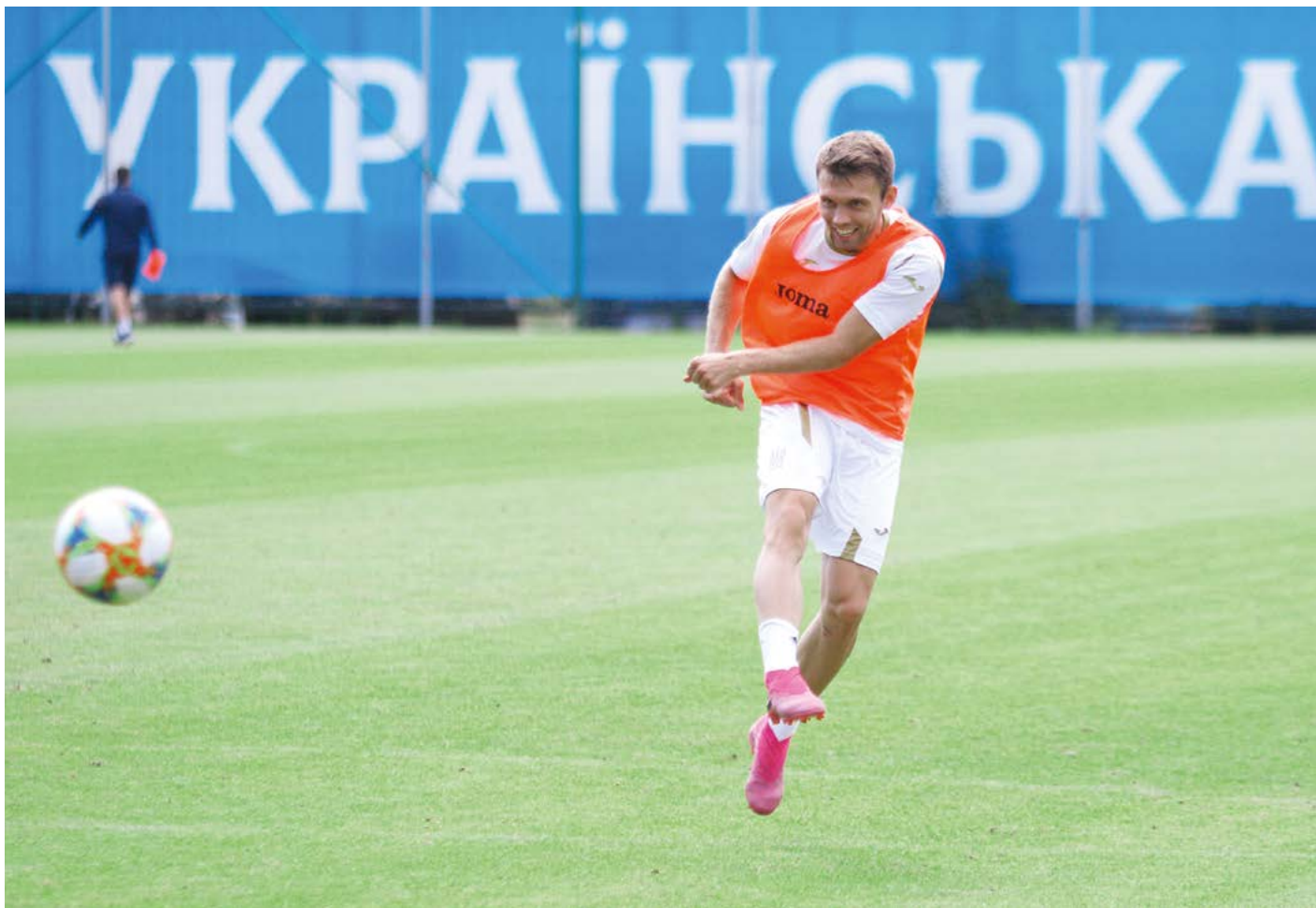
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FOUNDATION

THE UKRAINIAN ASSOCIATION OF FOOTBALL CONTINUES TO WORK ON AN AMBITIOUS PROJECT – BUILDING A BASE OF ALL UKRAINIAN NATIONAL TEAMS.

A MODERN
FOOTBALL CENTER
TO BE CONSTRUCTED
IN KNYAZHYCHY



The multifunctional sports complex will include:

- four full-size (105x68 m) natural lawn fields with lighting and heating;
- one full-size artificial turf field with tribunes, lighting and heating;
- indoor football arena with grandstands and full-size artificial field;
- playgrounds with artificial and rubber covering;
- medical rehabilitation centre with a gym, swimming pool, spa centre, rooms for recovery;
- hotel with a high level of service and comfort;
- restaurant and cafe;
- lounges;
- administrative premises with conference halls, class-

rooms and offices for employees of the association. The association's board in cooperation with the country's leading experts in the construction industry studies the experience of functioning and construction of training bases in Europe and the world holds meetings and consultations with colleagues from other European associations that have already implemented similar projects. The training base of the national teams of Ukraine will be located in an environmentally friendly area of Kyiv region with well-developed transport infrastructure. The favourable location will allow getting quickly to the international airport "Boryspil",

as well as not spend a lot of time moving to the Football House in the city centre. Implementation of such a project will once and for all solve the issue of high-quality and full-fledged preparation of national teams of Ukraine of all ages for official international matches, expand the Ukrainian Association of Football opportunities in organizing and holding competitions for children's and youth teams, significantly improve coaches licensing. Most importantly, this facility should become a point of attraction for the entire Ukrainian football family, regardless of gender, age and level of play.

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UEFA GROW IN UKRAINE: STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION OF THE «FOOTBALL FOR ALL» PRINCIPLE

In March 2019, UAF launched a fundamentally new UEFA project – GROW Participation. It means involving people in football and ensuring their participation in the football process to achieve a comprehensive effect: increasing the number of players and potential talents, strengthening the football community through regular training and feedback, consolidating football as a public positive subculture based on active and healthy lifestyle, communication of like-minded people and joint actions. This direction is one of UEFA football development's priority vectors."



UEFA has been implementing the Strategic Development Program of national associations called GROW since 2016, conducting research and stimulating the comprehensive development of football, built on the principles of sustainable development. The main goal of the Ukrainian project is to develop a comprehensive model of sustainable development of grassroots football at the regional level through strategic planning, cooperation and changing stereotypes. It is about creating opportunities based on the values and current principles of activity that meet the requirements of the modern world, and about stimulating the development and renewal



of all major activities of the national association. Its main feature is creative, structured and consolidated development and testing of models and mechanisms that allow systematizing and giving a new impetus to the spread of all types of football in all local centres of each region. The project activities are developed jointly by the UEFA, UAF and international experts, as well as directly by representatives of regional football associations, thus combining objective realities with a progressive vision of new opportunities. As a result of the project implementation in 2021, optimal, effective solutions will be obtained and ready for use in each region. The project covers the whole range of grassroots football, including school football, women's football, student, veteran football, promoting the principle of "Football For All" at any level and creating conditions for its practical



implementation. GROW's philosophy is that football should always be a joy. Therefore, the main thing is, first of all, the pleasure of the game, the time on the football field with friends and coaches, and not only the sports result and points in the standings. Especially when it comes to children or the elderly. Therefore, everyone who is fond of football should be able to play regularly throughout the

year (according to UEFA, regular training is more than 10 times a year in any format - whether to participate in matches or training) - this is the principle of event planning (festivals, tournaments) comes in place of one-time initiatives. Among the important tasks of the project are:

- formation and development of the registration culture of football players – as in professional, because football is no less important and serves as a foundation for professional, so playing football at the grassroots level is no less prestigious and gives every reason to be considered an equal member of the football family;

The main goal of the Ukrainian project is to develop a comprehensive model of sustainable development of grassroots football at the regional level through strategic planning, cooperation and changing stereotypes

- adherence to the principles of gender equality and promotion of equal involvement in football of both boys and men, girls and women;
- development of mid-level football managers of the involved regional associa-



The project covers the whole range of grass-roots football, including school football, women's football, student, veteran football, promoting the principle of "Football For All" at any level and creating conditions for its practical implementation

current level of football development and strength of football traditions, economic peculiarities), to be able to identify universally effective approaches for the whole territory of Ukraine. The project is implemented by teams at the regional level and representatives in the districts.

The main solutions and micro-projects developed during the year of project implementation, which have proven their effectiveness in practice are:

"School Football League" is an updated Ukrainian school tournament "Leather Ball", in which secondary schools are involved due to cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The traditional format of the tournament provides the play-off system from the first stage. Thus, 80% of children participate in the game once or twice. The introduction of the league principle in the first stages - school, district / local, regional - allowed to ensure regular participation of more students since the number of matches for each

tions with the provision of training from leading international experts and active exchange of experience among themselves;

- a new look at the development of amateur football clubs - by expanding to the format of local football centres for as many people as possible (both children and adults, with different levels of physical fitness and expectations from football).

Three fundamentally different regions of Ukraine (Ivano-Frankivsk, Dnipropetrovsk and Kyiv) were selected for implementation in terms of fundamentally different parameters (geographical location, population, the





participant increased to at least 10-12 per season, so each player can be registered as a football player. Such systemic involvement forms in children the desire to attend training - for this purpose, sections with qualified coaches and all the necessary equipment are created based on secondary schools (the initiative is called "My school is my team").

For as many children as possible to join the football process and get their place in the team, the competition rules stipulate that children who attend youth football schools or football academies should not participate in this tournament to ensure better results, because this initiative is about that football is for everyone.

To make the girls more involved in replacing the mixed teams that have always participated in this tournament, a separate branch of the

competition was launched for the girls' teams, so they got the impetus and opportunity for regular training, as well as inspiration to compete on equal terms.

"Our game" is a total challenge to the stereotype that football is not a girl's business. This project, based on the principle of gender equality was embodied in the creation of regular regional championships among girls' teams in several age categories. Also, festivals and other events are held, which unite girls of different ages and levels on the football field. Another important component is to encourage the creation of football and futsal sections for the youngest girls in the U7 - U9 age groups, which allows attracting more girls to football at once.

- Regular regional competitions for student teams (not only universities but also colleges, schools and

other secondary education institutions);

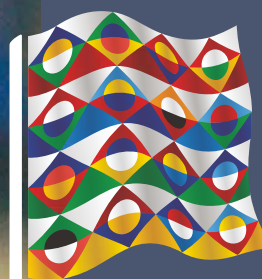
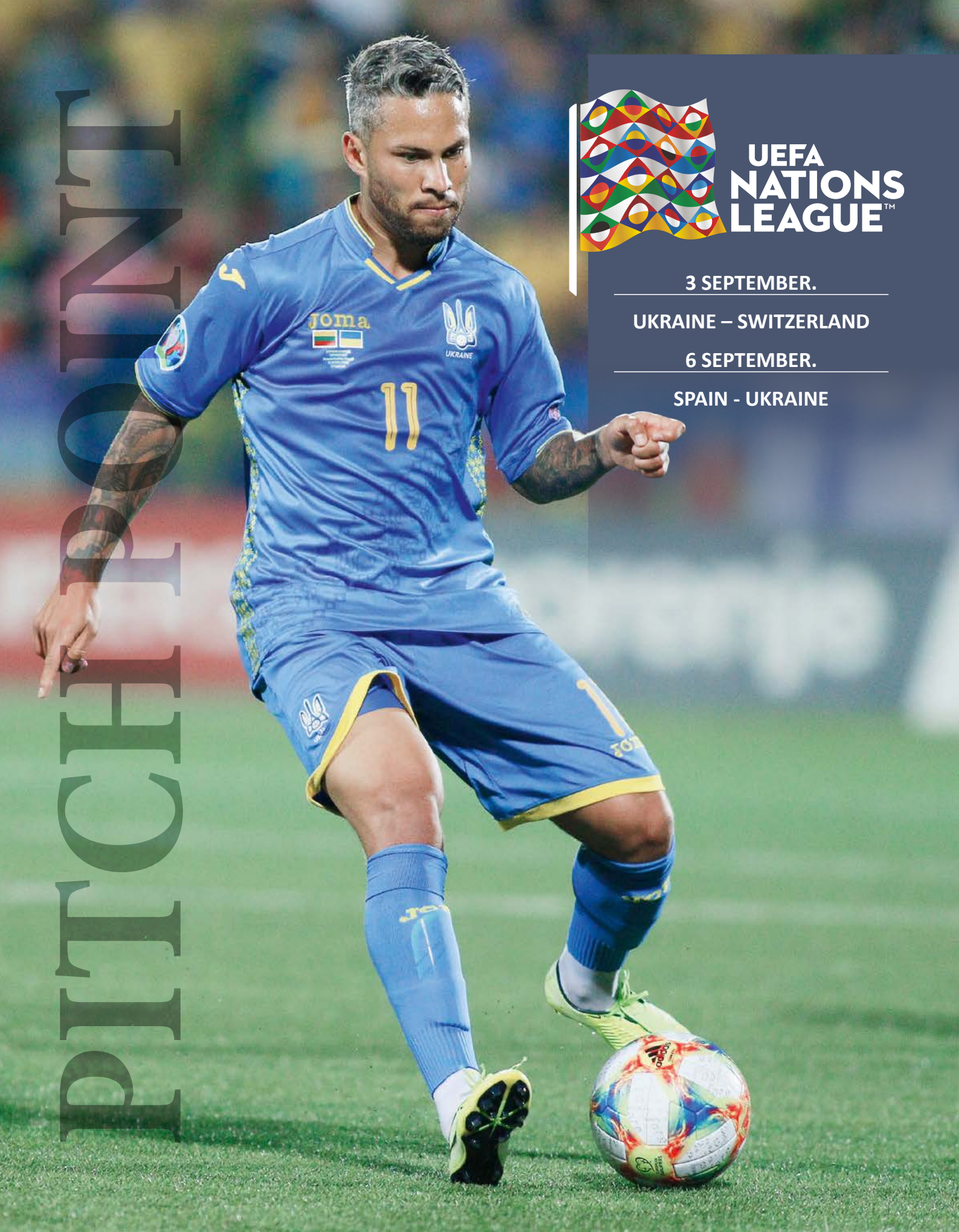
- Regular regional competitions for veterans of different age groups;
- Collaboration through local initiatives that provide regular training for specific groups of people, enabling these players to also be registered.

Thus, during the first year of the project, almost 11,000 new players were registered in the three regions, who joined the regular classes. This allows stating a significant growth potential under the conditions of scaling to the entire territory of Ukraine. Almost 3,000 girls are involved in the project activities, most of them regularly. 10 sections are open for the youngest girls.

During the second year, the project team will continue existing micro-projects, developing new ways of working in post-quarantine, and will

focus on the development of recreational football and amateur clubs, using international experience and interesting solutions for a sustainable effect.

Another unique feature of the project is that it is part of a study of the social impact of football, which has a scientific basis and is implemented in collaboration with the academic partner of UAF - National University "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy". The peculiarity of the study by this method involves the demonstration of how diverse the positive consequences for society from investment in the development of grassroots football of the government and all stakeholders. Similar studies have already been successfully implemented in several European countries, which will be joined by Ukraine.



**UEFA
NATIONS
LEAGUE™**

3 SEPTEMBER.

UKRAINE – SWITZERLAND

6 SEPTEMBER.

SPAIN - UKRAINE

PITCHFRENZ