



UEFA Study Group Scheme

Visit 19: Netherlands
Topic: Coach Education
Date(s): 23 – 26 November 2009
Visitors: Germany/Norway/Scotland

The nineteenth UEFA Study Group Scheme was hosted by the Netherlands.

The guest countries attending the visit were Germany, Norway and Scotland with the topic being Coach Education.

The main purpose of the visit was for the countries in attendance "To facilitate a greater exchange of technical knowledge."



The Scottish FA delegation was made up of former Hibernian FC Assistant manager, newly appointed Scottish FA Head of Coach Education, Donald Park, Assistant Head of Coach Education, former Celtic FC full back, Mark McNally, Project Coordinator, Donald Gillies, Coach Education Tutors, Dougie Anderson, David Sheldon and Henry Hall. Guests of the Scottish FA in attendance were, John Lunn and Dougie Millen, sportscotland and from Edinburgh University, Bob Brewer.



The study group were based at the KNVB headquarters in Zeist where national Coach Education Courses are delivered.

The headquarters are going through renovation and the plans are to build new offices and upgrade to hotel.

The study group was attended by former Scotland International Team Manager, UEFA Technical Director Andy Roxburgh.





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Day One

UEFA Technical Director Andy Roxburgh opened the study scheme and briefed the group on the importance of the study group scheme.

There had been 18 previous study group visits taking place since the introduction and feedback from visiting and host countries was positive. Roxburgh urged the coach educators in attendance to be curious and ask questions.

He also encouraged countries and individuals to share knowledge and not just make contacts but lifelong friends.

Roxburgh also encouraged the coach's to research the information passed on and log and record in the log books provided by UEFA.



Piet Hubers, Managing Director, Technical Department KNVB, was next up to present on the Netherland overall philosophy on football development. He informed the group of the main strength and weakness' of the country and the master plan objectives for the future.



One of the main targets was to improve the Netherlands position (top ten) in the FIFA rankings both men's and women's teams. Heubers showed the group the structure of the KNVB and finished off the presentation by summarising Football in the Netherlands, Play, Learn and Enjoy it.



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Day Two

A presentation on KNVB Vision on Football, Educational model and philosophy of learning was delivered by Nico Romenin and Peter Van Dort. The delivery was also on the UEFA "A" Youth Licence which requires 350 hours to complete. The KNVB Coach Education philosophy is on competence based learning. The candidates are split in to groups and the course consists of 12 one day meetings of 9 hours where all candidates attend, at least 4 group meetings hosted from clubs, and finally assessments. The candidates all work on a weekly basis at their respective clubs. There are five main components within the course:



- Coaching Matches
- Leading Training Sessions
- Managing the process of teambuilding
- Scouting of Talent
- Developing and Executing Youth Policy



The afternoon consisted of a visit to FC Utrecht to observe practical component of the UEFA Youth Licence and also to observe a presentation by Foeke Booy, FC Utrecht, Technical Director on how the club functions. He explained how the youth section works and how the club plays a massive part within the community of Utrecht.

Frane Meljerman, KNVB Coach Education Educator, Scout for International Team, gave a presentation on the UEFA A licence and the group observed a group of licence candidates deliver presentation on match analysis and session plan.

The tutors then went on to the park to deliver practical component in front of the study group as part of the course.





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Day Three

The groups travelled to Rotterdam to visit KNVB District Office West 11 where Arjen De Witt, KNVB Regional Coach, gave a presentation on how the district functions and also content on the UEFA "C" Licence for Juniors and Seniors is delivered. He explained the country was divided in to 8 regions; the region coach was responsible for linking with clubs and providing coach education.



He explained that there were dual age bands and organised football started at 7's, 9's, 11's, 13's, 15's 17's and 19's. They play four, seven and eleven aside. They also have regional squads who play against each other, players can then move on to pro clubs if identified.



In the afternoon the Leaders of each group gave presentations on Coach Mentoring within their respective countries. There were then breakout groups to discuss and feedback on any coach education matters.

In the evening the groups observed preparation and practical component for UEFA "C" Licence back at Zeist.

The course came to a close with the KNVB hosting a course dinner at local restaurant in Zeist.

