

Czech Football Federation hosts EFPA Presentation in Prague

Wednesday, 22 April 2009

EFPA President, Ramon Alfonseda, visited Prague on Monday to present the project of the National Federation of Former Players in this Central European country.

The Czech Football Federation hosted the meeting in the Czech capital where all professional football clubs were invited as well as representatives from the Slovakian and Hungarian Football Federation.

After having planted the seed in Poland, the UK, Germany, Italy and Portugal, EFPA now aims at expanding its mission and activities to the Central European countries.

Mr. Otakar Mestek, Grassroots Manager at the Czech Football Federation, was in charge of organising the meeting and was very pleased with the outcome. During his presentation, Mr. Alfonseda explained how EFPA is currently structured and why the creation of a National Federation of Former Players in each European country is important for the development of EFPA. Alfonseda highlighted the role of former players in recovering football history, helping former colleagues and promoting the values of sport in cooperation with the country's sports authorities to help combat today's ills.

EFPA was founded by 12 club associations and since its foundation in Barcelona in 2004, it has travelled to Italy, Portugal, United Kingdom, Germany, France and the Czech Republic to establish the National Federation of Former Players to work closely with the footballing authorities in their respective countries.

The meeting was attended by:

Mr. Repka - GS, Czech FA

Mr. Mestek - Czech FA

Mr. Valasek - Tescoma Zlin, club

Mr. Schejba - FC Viktoria Plzeň, club

Mr. Chvojka - FC Viktoria Plzeň, club

Mr. Vlcek - FC Viktoria Plzeň, club

Mr. Kovacs - Hungarian FA

Mr. Oze - Hungarian FA

Mr. Philipp - Czech internationals club

Mr. Landa - Bohemians 1905, club

Mr. Zlamal - Slavia Praha, club

Mrs. Hamalová - Slavia Praha, club

The Spanish Federation (FEAFV) was created in 2005; with its current 31 club members, it is supported by the Spanish Players Association (AFE) and is officially recognised by the Spanish Ministry for Sports and the Football Federation. The Polish PSBP, led by former-international Dariusz Dziekanowski, was created following Mr. Alfonseda's visit in August 2007 and is currently working on a legends match to be played in Warsaw at the end of this year.

The British Alliance of Former Players Associations was created in Liverpool in August 2009 and it has already led to the creation of the Scottish arm, the Scottish Federation of Former Players Associations.