

## **FIFA Futsal Seminar, 13 – 15 May 2009**

The seminar was organised by the Divisions of Competitions and Development of FIFA. Its objective was to discuss and evaluate the status quo of Futsal and elaborate a working paper related to the game for further studies and action within FIFA.

In order to reinforce the impact of the seminar representatives of different areas and entities related to Futsal were be invited, such as:

- Members of the FIFA Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee
- Futsal refereeing and coaching experts
- Representatives of the member associations and confederations
- Representatives of the FIFA Development Offices

Among the participants were Javier Lozano, two times Futsal world cup champion coaching the team of Spain and current Development and Coaching Director of Real Madrid CF, José Venancio, current head coach of the Spanish Futsal national team, Colin Klass, President of the Guyana Football Federation and member of the FIFA Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee.

In the course of the seminar five working groups were created to discuss the following topics: Technical and tactical trends in modern Futsal; Futsal Refereeing; Futsal Competitions; Youth Futsal; Women's Futsal.

After three days of intense debates and deliberations, all the participants agreed to pursue the vision of developing Futsal and strengthening the position of the sport in the confederations and member associations, as it was considered that Futsal is very beneficial for these bodies.

Futsal contributes strongly to football and adds value to the member associations because it allows the associations to create new opportunities for players, coaches, referees, sport administrators, etc. Additionally, Futsal gives access to new social communities and makes possible for the association to conquer the small sided sport (not only indoor). It is also considered to be a great tool for football technical development, and allows for new marketing opportunities. It also gives certain associations a chance to host and participate in international competitions.

A strong message was delivered about the necessity of developing women's Futsal, in order to allow women from every culture and social environment to develop through sport.

To guarantee that the member associations can benefit, FIFA will spread Futsal worldwide awareness through communication and educational campaigns. A list of possible additional actions will be analyzed in the next months.

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