

Date: 26.05.2008

Countdown News – 20

Special service for visually impaired fans

Nyon – The UEFA EURO 2008™ slogan, “Expect Emotions”, applies to everyone. Thanks to a local radio producer, visually impaired fans in the stadiums will not be deprived of information about the match. Using an FM receiver, they will be able to listen to special live audio commentary which takes their disability into account. Two volunteer commentators with experience in this area will be at each match to provide commentary from 15 minutes before kick-off until five minutes after the final whistle. “This project shows that disabled football fans matter to us and it is a really good thing to do for visually impaired spectators,” says Christian Mutschler, tournament director for Switzerland. “We think that the idea has the potential to be used in Austria and Switzerland even after EURO 2008 too.” For each match, ten special seats are reserved for blind and visually impaired spectators. Tickets went on sale in April via the EURO 2008 initiative for blind and visually impaired fans, the Swiss Federation of Blind and Visually Impaired People, the Swiss National Association of and for the Blind, and other organisations for blind and visually impaired people, and via the “football 4 all” platform in Austria. For each match, ten category one tickets could be bought for the price of category three tickets, together with a complimentary ticket for an accompanying person. For safety and security reasons, the seats are generally close to those reserved for spectators in wheelchairs. The technical side of things will be taken care of by a Euro 2008 SA specialist working with the volunteer radio commentators.

Provisions for avoiding & disposing of waste during UEFA EURO 2008™

Nyon – Responsibility for waste removal at the UEFA EURO 2008™ venues has been entrusted to the companies that normally perform this task in the stadiums and are therefore familiar with the facilities available.

In an effort to minimise the amount of waste generated, Euro 2008 SA has laid down various measures that must also be respected by suppliers and concessionaires:

- Strict waste separation
- Limited distribution of advertising material
- Use of reusable packaging
- Sale of snacks in/on bread (wherever possible)
- Sorting and compression of catering waste on-site
- Use of reusable cups wherever logistically possible and where there is sufficient experience in using such a system (reusable cups will be used in the stadiums in Vienna, Klagenfurt, Salzburg, Innsbruck and Zurich; recyclable single-use cups will be used in conjunction with a deposit system in Basel. Recyclable one-way cups will only be used in Berne and Geneva)
- Collection of relevant data as the basis for environmentally friendly measures at future events (waste controlling).

Media enquiries:

Euro 2008 SA, Media Desk

Tel.: +41 (0)22 707 2001

Email: media@euro2008.com