

DEAR FOOTBALL FANS,

Welcome to the first-ever UFFA Champions Festival. First of all, I had better explain what it is. When we decided to come back to Paris to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first European Cup final, there was no way we could celebrate with a 'private party'. Our aim was to throw the doors wide open and invite everybody to join in.

I sincerely thank the City of Paris for helping to organise a five-day event that starts on Saturday 13 May and runs right through until the day of the UEFA Champions League final at the Stade de France.

It means that the Trocadero will come to life as a UEFA Champions League venue, with the commercial partners offering all sorts of activities, competitions and promotions and France's world champion Laurent Blanc acting



Master of Ceremonies on the opening day.

The UEFA Champions Festival will also feature the annual Starball Match contested by five-a-side teams, plus the UEFA Young Champions event, where 128 teams of boys and girls will be enjoying some football, starting at the Stade Emile Anthoine and then moving across the river to the Trocadero for the final stages.

The UEFA Champions Festival is your festival. I hope you will want to join in and I hope you enjoy it to the full.

LENNART JOHANSSON

President of UEFA



EDITORIAL



ADDRESS:

Stade Emile Anthoine 9, rue Jean Rey, 75015 Paris

 $DATE \cdot TIME$:

Saturday 13.05.06, 10h - 21h Sunday 14.05.06, 10h - 21h

EVENT:

Young Champions football tournament



ADDRESS:

Jardins du Trocadero, 75016 Paris

 $DATE \cdot TIME$:

Saturday 13.05.06, 10h - 21h Sunday 14.05.06, 10h - 21h Monday 15.05.06, 12h - 20h Tuesday 16.05.06, 12h - 20h Wednesday 17.05.06, 10h - 20h

EVENT:

UEFA Champions Festival

09:00 - 10:00	opening of Young Champions tournament	STADE EMILE ANTHOINE
10:00 - 21:00	Young Champions preliminary stages plus quarter finals	STADE EMILE ANTHOINE
10:00 - 10:30	opening of Champions Festival	TROCADERO
10:30 - 21:00	spontaneous football - centre court	TROCADERO
10:30 - 21:00	giant screen activities	TROCADERO
10:30 - 21:00	UEFA Tower Passing	TROCADERO
10:30 - 21:00	UEFA experience container	TROCADERO
10:30 - 21:00	adidas Photo Tool	TROCADERO
10:30 - 21:00	Ford activities	TROCADERO
10:30 - 21:00	official merchandising collection stand	TROCADERO

LOCATION



opening of Young Champions tournament	STADE EMILE ANTHOINE
Young Champions preliminary stages plus quarter finals	STADE EMILE ANTHOINE
50 hours Starball Match	TROCADERO
giant screen activities	TROCADERO
UEFA Tower Passing	TROCADERO
UEFA experience container	TROCADERO
Ford activities	TROCADERO
adidas Photo Tool	TROCADERO
MasterCard activities	TROCADERO
official merchandising collection stand	TROCADERO
	Young Champions preliminary stages plus quarter finals 50 hours Starball Match giant screen activities UEFA Tower Passing UEFA experience container Ford activities adidas Photo Tool MasterCard activities

00:00 - 24:00	continuation 50 hours Starball Match	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	giant screen activities	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	UEFA Tower Passing	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	UEFA experience container	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	Ford activities	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	adidas Photo Tool	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	official merchandising collection stand	TROCADERO
15:00 - 18:00	table football tournament	TROCADERO





00:00 - 12:50	continuation 50 hours Starball Match	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	giant screen activities	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	UEFA Tower Passing	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	UEFA experience container	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	Ford activities	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	adidas Photo Tool	TROCADERO
12:00 - 20:00	official merchandising collection stand	TROCADERO
13:00 - 17:00	spontaneous football	TROCADERO
17:00 - 19:30	semi finals and finals of Young Champions tournament	TROCADERO
19:30 - 20:00	award ceremonies	TROCADERO

10:00 - 20:00	giant screen activities	TROCADERO
10:00 - 12:00	partner tournament	TROCADERO
10:00 - 20:00	UEFA Tower Passing · UEFA experience container	TROCADERO
10:00 - 20:00	Ford activities	TROCADERO
10:00 - 20:00	adidas Photo Tool	TROCADERO
10:00 - 20:00	MasterCard activities	TROCADERO
10:00 - 20:00	official merchandising collection stand	TROCADERO
12:00 - 15:00	spontaneous football	TROCADERO
15:00 - 18:00	semi finals and finals of Young Champions tournament	TROCADERO
18:00 - 18:30	award ceremonies	TROCADERO





ARSENAL FC

The Gunners have at last hit their target. The club founded at the Woolwich Arsenal armaments factory 120 years ago has had this final in its sights ever since European football got under way. But, despite ARSENAL FC's rich domestic traditions and gold medals in the Fairs Cup and UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, success in the continent's premier competition has eluded them. Watching four other English clubs lift the trophy added to the sense of frustration.

Ironically, Arsène Wenger's team has fulfilled its UEFA Champions League potential in a season when domestic results have not always lived up to the extremely high standards the club has set in recent years. The Frenchman, renowned for his abilities in developing players, has led a young team along the road to the final in his native country. Lack of experience was expec-

ted to be their undoing against megachampions *REAL MADRID CF* and *JUVENTUS* in the knock-out rounds. But the youngsters proved the critics wrong.

What's more, they did so in convincing style. They combined exhilarating attacking play with a consistency that had been lacking in previous campaigns. The result was a recordbreaking run of ten successive games without conceding a goal - a feat which cannot be undervalued in a competition of such high calibre.

The cosmopolitan team, based on young European talent, travels to Paris intent on winning the Gunners' first-ever final in a historic year when, after 93 years, the club lowers the final curtain on the stadium at Highbury.

FC BARCELONA

To understand why FC Barcelona are so excited about reaching the UEFA Champions League final, we have to look back over the Catalan club's history and the frustration they felt when their arch-rivals REAL MADRID CF stamped their trademark on the early years of the competition. And when they finally became the first team to eliminate the madrileños from the European Cup in the 1960/61 season, they were thwarted by SL BENFICA and the woodwork in Berne, where the final was played.

Barça had to wait 25 years for a second attempt - and their frustration was extended by an *FC STEAUA BUCURESTI* side that played out a goal-less draw in Seville and then won a penalty shootout by the unusual scoreline of 2:0.

The Catalans' suffering was finally ended by the Ronald Koeman extratime free-kick at Wembley that defeated *UC SAMPDORIA* in the last final before the UEFA Champions League was born in November 1992. Two years later, Barça seemed to be emerging as dominant force in Europe when they reached another final, only to suffer a resounding 4:0 defeat by *AC MILAN*.

FC BARCELONA started the current campaign among the favourites on account of their flowing, flamboyant football. And Frank Rijkaard's team has lived up to expectations by sailing through the group stage and then demonstrating in the knock-out rounds that results and good football are definitely compatible.

The blaugrana travel to Paris hoping to maintain the winning habit to don the European crown for a second time.

ARSENAL FC

