



ACTIVITY REPORT

20

2020

2021



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ФУДБАЛСКИ САВЕЗ СРБИЈЕ
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF SERBIA

CONTENT

- 5 CHANGES
- 6 CONFIDENCE IN DRAGAN STOJKOVIĆ
- 9 APPOINTMENT OF STEVAN STOJANOVIĆ
- 10 SUCCESSFUL START IN THE WORLD CUP QUALIFICATIONS
- 12 ALEKSANDAR MITROVIĆ'S RECORD
- 14 YOUTH CATEGORIES
- 16 FUTSAL PLAYERS AT THE WORLD CUP
- 18 REFORMS
- 19 GOAL OF THE ROUND
- 22 DIPLOMACY
- 23 ARBITRATION COURT
- 24 VAR
- 26 SPONSORSHIP POOL
- 27 SERBIA CUP
- 28 REMEMBERING ČIČA AND SANI
- 31 FOOTBALL IS FOR GIRLS
- 32 SOCIAL NETWORKS
- 34 CHEER FOR SERBIA
- 35 FAS SPORTS CENTRE

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*supernova

SUPERSTAR TV

ARENA SPORT

ONE
TEAM



WITH
WHOLE
HEART



FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION
OF SERBIA

DEPUTY PRESIDENT

Nenad BJEKOVIĆ

GENERAL SECRETARY

Jovan ŠURBATOVIĆ

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Nenad BJEKOVIĆ

Novica TONČEV

Dragan SIMOVIĆ

Miloš MILJANIĆ

Milan KARADŽIĆ

Dušan MRAKIĆ

Marjan RNIĆ

Janoš ŽEMBERI

Branko STOJAKOVIĆ

Dragomir LAZOVIĆ

Dragan ILIĆ

Saša BAJČETIĆ

Bojan PAVIĆEVIĆ

Founded
1919

FIFA Affiliation
1921

UEFA Affiliation
1954

Number of Clubs
2482

Registered Players
146845

Number of Referees
4032

Number of Coaches
4901

Most Titles in the Championship
FK Crvena zvezda 32
FK Partizan 27

Most Cup Trophies
FK Crvena zvezda 25

Champion 2020/21
FK Crvena zvezda

Cup Winner 2020/21
FK Crvena zvezda

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CHANGES

RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT SLAVIŠA KOKEZA, REMOVAL OF MARKO PANTELIĆ, FAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONFIDENCE IN NENAD BJEKOVIĆ

Slaviša Kokeza has resigned as president. Back in May, Nenad Bjeković was elected deputy president instead of Marko Pantelić, with the authority to represent the Association and perform duties of the president until early elections.

HONOUR AND RECOGNITION, ALL FOR THE GOOD OF SERBIAN FOOTBALL

After unanimous support of the Executive Committee, new FA of Serbia deputy president, with all authorities of the leading person in the FAS, Nenad Bjeković stated the following:

“Decision of the Executive Committee is a great honour and recognition for me. I will work for the benefit of Serbian football, with the assistance of my closest associates. I am more of a field man, but there are people with me who are experienced and know how to manage a serious organization such as the Football Association of Serbia. I have never liked to get smart or theorize too much about issues and topics I do not understand, but I have been in football long enough to respond to obligations and tasks in such a delicate moment. It will be my pleasure to serve as acting president of the FA of Serbia until new elections are called.”



REPLACEMENT OF LJUBIŠA TUMBAKOVIĆ CONFIDENCE GIVEN TO DRAGAN STOJKOVIĆ

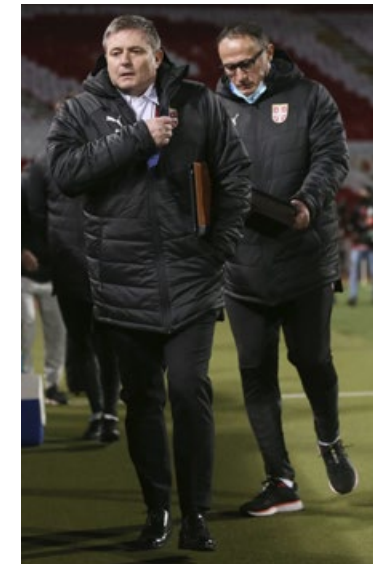
Many activities in the FA of Serbia system were aimed at achieving the main goal, qualification of the “A” team to the European Championship. Play-off was won, and Norway was defeated in the semi-final match in Oslo. It was one of the best games of our best national team. And, of course, we expected to be up to the task again in that final match with Scotland in Belgrade, and finally manage to qualify to the European Championship, after 20 years of “fasting”. We failed. Scotland team was better after extra time and penalty kicks.

As a consequence of (un)achieved result, a change in the national team head-coach position followed. Termination of the contract by mutual agreement was reached with Ljubiša Tumbaković and the leading position of the national team was entrusted to Dragan Stojković, a legendary ace, former national team player, one of the best players in the region, a coach who proved himself on the Asian continent and showed willingness and desire to take charge of his country’s national team.

Dragan Stojković signed a three-year contract, namely till the end of the 2024 EURO qualifications.

“I am extremely happy and also very proud. There is no greater privilege than to be head-coach of your own country.

I am aware of the responsibility I am taking over, but I also believe in my own quality, quality of my associates and enormous potential of our national team. Also, the great support I feel coming from everywhere will be necessary in order for us to achieve our goals. We have to be united, ready to die for our country, emblem and anthem. There is no other way to reach success. The result is a priority, but I also want us to dominate, to wish for a goal more and us to be the ones controlling the game. There will be hard moments, but unity, faith and optimism that our next match will be better will also be necessary then. Once again, I would like to thank the Football Association of Serbia for their trust in me and I hope that we will have good reasons to be happy about successes of our national team”, said Dragan Stojković.



Together with the head-coach Stojković, there will be Stevan Stojanović performing duties of the “A” team director. As for the technical staff, associates of the head coach will be: Goran Đorović – coach, Saša Ilić – coach, Bratislav Živković – coach, Goran Čumić – goalkeeper coach, Cacushito Kinoshi – fitness coach, Nebojša Stamenković – coach-analyst, Nemanja Filipović – team manager.





STEVAN STOJANOVIĆ APPOINTED THE A TEAM DIRECTOR

Stevan Stojanović, legendary goalkeeper of FK Crvena zvezda (Red Star), captain of the generation that won the Champions Cup, has been appointed the A team director. Owner of three UEFA medals (a bronze with youth team in 1983, a silver as the Cup Winner's Cup finalist with Antwerp in 1993 and a golden one as the European Champion in 1991) and one of the most experienced sports workers in this area has become the closest associate of the head-coach Dragan Stojković, with whom he already made a tandem in the past, both on and off the pitch.

“Dragan Stojković is a born winner. He has charisma, he is a true leader, and those are the qualities you simply have to be born with. He has already created a good and healthy atmosphere in the national team, which was reflected in the results at the very start of the qualifications. This is a specific job, not like in a club where you have enough time at your disposal to put all your ideas into action. We came to work for the long haul, I believe in the head-coach and our players, and I am sure of the public's similar mood. I know Piksi's philosophy well, nothing is alien to me. Besides the desire to win every match, regardless of the strength of the opponent, he also cares a lot for the supporters to be satisfied with the performance of our team”, said Stojanović.



SUCCESSFUL START IN THE 2022 WORLD CUP QUALIFICATIONS

STOJKOVIĆ RESTORES FAITH IN THE NATIONAL TEAM



Therefore, seven points in three matches and sharing a first place in our qualification group with Portugal, the current European champion and one of the best teams in the world.

Decisive matches await us later this year when we will host Luxembourg and Azerbaijan and be guests of the teams of Republic of Ireland, Luxembourg and Portugal.

After each match at the start of the qualifications, head-coach Stojković emphasized strong character shown by his players. Along with the football quality we indisputably possess, that could be the main asset and the top trump card on our way to the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

Serbia got off to a great start in the Qatar World Cup qualifications. First match meant a victory over Republic of Ireland (3:2), followed by a very exciting match with Portugal and a draw (2:2), and then a victory in Baku, against the team of Azerbaijan (1:2).



SERBIA		3 - 2		REP. OF IRELAND
SERBIA		2 - 2		PORTUGAL
AZERBAIJAN		1 - 2		SERBIA
QATAR		01. 09.		SERBIA
SERBIA		04. 09.		LUXEMBOURG
REP. OF IRELAND		07. 09.		SERBIA
LUXEMBOURG		09. 10.		SERBIA
SERBIA		12. 10.		AZERBAIJAN
SERBIA		11. 11.		QATAR
PORTUGAL		14. 11.		SERBIA

A RECORD

NO ONE NEVER, EVER LIKE ALEKSANDAR MITROVIĆ

Two matches, three goals in just three days and crowned king of scorers of the best national team – Aleksandar Mitrović. The Fulham striker had 36 scores on his account just before the start in the EURO qualifications, and then he first equalized the achievement of legendary Stjepan Bobek with two scores against the Republic of Ireland, only to definitely broke the 67-year-old record in the match with Portugal. “Mitrogol” spiced up the incredible string of scores with two great goals against Azerbaijan, which meant three important points for our team on the way to Qatar.



It should be noted that Aleksandar Mitrović has shot penalty kicks only three times in the national team and during 90 minutes match. He scored twice, against Montenegro in Podgorica and against Turkey in Istanbul, and missed once, against Montenegro in Belgrade.

The best scorer in the history of our national football also scored a few spectacular goals. In addition to that lobbing bravura in the match with Republic of Ireland, which he himself said was his favourite score in the national team shirt, we also remember his “howitzers” against Bolivia in Graz, Luxembourg in Belgrade, that turn and fantastic score realization in Tbilisi, against Georgia.



With a goal against Croatia in Belgrade on 6th September 2013, then 18-year-old Mitrović announced the beginning of a brilliant national team career.

And his attitude towards the shirt of his “favourite colours” is also shown by the fact that he scored as many as 31 goals in competition matches and only 10 in friendlies. He was also a scorer at the World Cup in Russia in a match against Switzerland, hit the nets in the WC and EC qualifications, the League of Nations... Finally, it should be said that Aleksandar Mitrović is only 26, with already 64 matches played for the national team! “Mitrogol” will definitely push the boundaries and it cannot be ruled out that in the future he will jeopardize record of Branislav Ivanović of 105 appearances in the national team.



TOP SCORERS

- 41 ALEKSANDAR MITROVIĆ
- 38 STJEPAN BOBEK
- 37 BLAGOJE MARJANOVIĆ
MILAN GALIĆ
SAVO MILOŠEVIĆ
- 32 RAJKO MITIĆ
- 29 DUŠAN BAJEVIĆ
- 28 TODOR VESELINOVIĆ
- 26 BORIVOJE KOSTIĆ
PREDRAG MIJATOVIĆ

YOUTH CATEGORIES

There were personnel changes also in the FAS youth categories. Nikola Lazetić has been appointed FAS youth categories director, and Igor Matić instructor services coordinator. Many youth teams have new head-coaches. Zvonko Živković has become U-21 head-coach, Dejan Branković will take care of the U-19 team, while Radovan Krivokapić will coach the U-17 team. A great number of our former, eminent aces of Yugoslav and Serbian football have found their place in technical staffs of youth teams.



DIASPORA

A GREAT NUMBER OF OUR CHILDREN NOW PLAY FOR SERBIA

Thanks to the previous, but also the current technical management of the FAS youth categories, a large number of our children who perform in foreign clubs and were born in diaspora have been engaged. Many of them showed a desire to play for Serbia and many of them have already had an opportunity to make their debut for our national team.



ARENASPORT
MOJ TRENUTAK. MOJ TEREN. MOJA TRIBINA.



FUTSAL PLAYERS

PRIDE OF OUR NATION, READY FOR THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP!

For many years now, one of the sectors the FA of Serbia is especially proud of, is, without a doubt, the futsal national team, that makes us so recognizable all over the world.

There are a few national teams that have managed to make a big change of generations without changing the result, and that was exactly the case with our great "Eagles" who, in the period behind us, were exclusively the topics of great sports stories, victories and successes.

Vision and strategy of our futsal director, Bojan Pavićević, have been absolutely confirmed by the successful qualification of our "A" futsal team to the World Cup, to be held in September and October 2021 in Lithuania. After extremely exhausting qualifying tournaments, first in France, then in Niš, and finally in the legendary two play-off matches with Finland, Serbia managed to qualify to the world's largest futsal show, as one of the seven European teams.

Wherever our futsal team appeared in Serbia, it meant "full house" and crowded stands of the hall "Čair" in Niš at the matches with Spain, Ukraine and France sent the best possible picture to the world.



Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we did not have the opportunity to fill the futsal halls in Vršac, Vranje and Novi Sad during the 2022 Futsal EURO The Netherlands qualifications, and perhaps it was that support from the stands that we lacked in order to achieve direct qualifications to the final tournament, so in November later this year we will play Belarus in two play-off matches for the last visa to Futsal EURO qualification.

FUTSAL WORLD CUP LITHUANIA 2021

12 SEPTEMBER - 3 OCTOBER



GROUP F

14 SEPTEMBER, VILNIUS

SRB   IRN

17 SEPTEMBER, VILNIUS

ARG   SRB

20 SEPTEMBER, KLAIPEDA

USA   SRB

REFORMS THAT BRING QUALITY

FAS ExCo ON REDUCING THE ELITE LEAGUE



The FAS management has decided to reduce the number of the Serbian football elite clubs. As from the next season, the Super League will have 16 clubs. The tendency is to concentrate the quality and get the image the football fans deserve with the reforms that have started at practically all levels, and all for a better tomorrow of Serbian football.

The rule of bonus players has also been corrected, so that the Super League clubs will be obliged to have one U-21 player on the pitch for all 90 minutes, instead of two players in the first half.

A new FAS Referees Committee was also appointed, headed by Dejan Filipović, while Milorad Mažić, due to the valid contract he has in Cyprus, will act as a special advisor and an expert consultant.



FINANCIAL AND EQUIPMENT SUPPORT TO THE CLUBS

Due to the situation with the Coronavirus and the care for those who need it most, the FA of Serbia made a decision to use its own funds to help amateur clubs across the country. Almost 770,000 EUR has been allocated, and 268 clubs from lower competition ranks received the mentioned assistance. With this gesture, FA of Serbia has continued with the assistance to the clubs throughout Serbia, recalling that more than 2,000 clubs already received the equipment, as well as many other forms of donations.

GOAL OF THE ROUND

In order to popularize domestic championship and promote it through media, we have continued with handing out presents for scorers of the most beautiful goals of Linglong Tire Super League Serbia. After each round, the most beautiful goal scorer was presented with the latest G-Shock watch model, and fierce competition and hard work the special jury had literally every weekend prove that interesting and attractive football is played on Super League pitches all over Serbia. Goals were scored from all positions and in different ways, and upon ending of the championship we chose the most beautiful score and Filip Knežević, player of FK Proleter, was named Scorer of the Goal of the Season.





DIPLOMACY

This season, Serbia also had its representatives in the very ending of an UEFA competition. General Secretary, Jovan Šurbatović was a UEFA delegate in the UEFA League Europe semifinal match between Villarreal and Arsenal, while Nebojša Ivković performed the same role in the final match in Gdansk, between Villarreal and Manchester United. At the same time and on both matches, one more of us, Vlado Glođović held the position of the security officer. If we keep in mind that Jovan Šurbatović is on the list of 11 delegates for the European Championship, which will be held from 11th June to 11th July in 11 cities across Europe, it is obvious that UEFA still has complete trust in the FA of Serbia staff.

This is supported by the fact that the Serbian referee Srđan Janković, with his assistants Uroš Stojković and Milan Mihajlović, officiated a few important UEFA Champions League matches (Real Madrid – Shakhtar), Europa League (Benfica – Lech, Bruges – Dynamo Kyiv, Molde – Granada, Feyenoord – Wolfsburg) and also World Cup qualifiers (Germany – Iceland), and they will also be one of four European referee teams at the upcoming Olympic Games in Tokyo.



ARBITRATION COURT REFORM

In accordance with the suggestions stated in the agreed document signed by all interested parties of the “Agreement on Professional Football Player Standard Contract Minimum Requirements in EU and other Territories of the UEFA Competence”, FA of Serbia has prepared new Regulations on the Arbitration Court Activities, agreed by the Ministry of Youth and Sports on 7th June 2021.

Regulations state provisions amended mostly because a possibility for even greater improvement of the Arbitration Court has been noticed, and a part of amendments relate to the way arbitrators are elected, as well as to defining necessary qualifications for the arbitrators election.

Arbitration Court has so far built its reputation and gained great authority in its work, hence the established imperative of maintaining expertise and competence of the arbitrators.

New composition of arbitrators will consist of three arbitrators proposed by the Union of Super League and First League Serbia Clubs, as well as the Union of Professional Football Players – Nezavisnost.

President of the Arbitration Court will be elected upon a joint proposal by the Union of Super League and First League Serbia Clubs and the Union of Professional Football Players. In case mentioned parties do not reach an agreement on joint proposal, president of the Arbitration Court will be elected by the FAS Executive Committee.

A list of arbitrators, who will take part in settling disputes brought before the Arbitration Court, will be formed at the next meeting of the FAS Executive Committee. In the Court’s activities so far, more than 700 cases have

been dealt with, but what is important to emphasize is that the number of cases has been decreasing from year to year. That speaks enough about quality of the work of the Arbitration Court itself and arbitration practice that has been established.

In the last couple of years, an average number of cases per year has been 55, which is far less than in the previous period, when there were over 150 cases pending annually.

Statistically, Arbitration Court of the FA of Serbia reached its decisions, in the cases it ruled, with an average in three months, which is very important to state because quick decision making is of great importance for every court. One of the amendments in the Regulations relates to the urgency of proceedings in cases requesting contract termination, which means that such cases will be decided on even faster. Certainly, speed of execution of work is accompanied by substantive decisions indicating that the Arbitration Court has built its own authority and credibility through hard work and efforts.

We are certain that in the next period the Arbitration Court will keep, but also improve quality of its work, as well as that the expertise and competence of elected arbitrators will justify the reputation and trust enjoyed by the Arbitration Court of the FA of Serbia.

VAR IN SERBIA

After signing the contract with the VAR supplier, the planning of activities related to the adequate implementation of the VAR system began.

The FAS has selected equipment from the renowned manufacturer EVS from Belgium, one of the FIFA licensed manufacturers of VAR equipment.

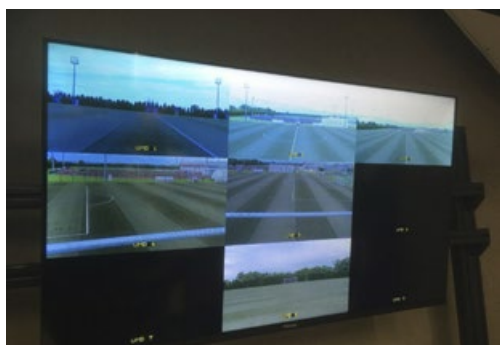
At the beginning of November 2020, a demanding process of training the referees has begun, with direct and permanent cooperation and consultations with FIFA. Mr. Mike Van der Roest, FIFA VAR instructor, gave the first initial lecture. After that, in the period between November 2020 and March 2021, the training of referees continued, all according to the strict and precise requirements of FIFA, with the use of appropriate software and simulators that enable referees to understand the basic philosophy of the VAR system.

At the end of 2020, the adaptation of the space for 4 VAR rooms began in the FAS Sports Center. The construction works were completed in February, and after that, the VAR rooms were equipped with the appropriate technical material and are now ready to start working.

Having in mind the complexity of this demanding project, many activities took place simultaneously, so that the process would be completed by the beginning of the next season.



Much of the work has been completed, but big tasks lie ahead for the Association and the FAS Project Team, for VAR to be implemented in the 2021/22 season, so we would be keep up with the biggest European leagues that are already using this video technology.



Simultaneously with this process, members of the FAS VAR project team visited the stadia of teams competing in the Super League, but also some teams from the First League of Serbia, to establish the current situation and what needs to be done in the future so that stadia are ready for start of implementation of the system.



POOL OF SPONSORS

HISTORICAL CONTRACT WITH TELECOM SERBIA AND ARENA CHANNELS GROUP

The successful start in the qualifications for the World Cup and the positive energy that is felt at every step with the arrival of Dragan Stojković to the position of Head-Coach, influenced and rose the interest of sponsors for cooperation with the Football Association of Serbia.

For a better tomorrow of Serbian football, contracts for three years have been initiated by the partners - Football Association of Serbia, Telekom Srbija and Arena Channels Group. The ceremonial act of cooperation was made official at the Hilton Hotel in Belgrade, with Vladimir Lučić, General Manager of Telekom Srbija, Nenad Bjeković, Deputy President

of the FAS, Nebojsa Žugić, Director of Arena Channels Group and Dragan Stojkovic, Head-Coach of the Serbian National Team.

Also, a Contract with mineral water company VODAVODA was signed, so now it is an official water for our National Team on its path towards the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar. Considering that VODAVODA was with our national football team during the qualifications for the European Championship in 2016, this partnership, which has been based on solid foundations of common values since the first day, has been only renewed.



CUP OF SERBIA

FK CRVENA ZVEZDA WON THE TROPHY THAT IT WAITED FOR NINE YEARS

Crvena zvezda is the winner of the Serbian Cup for the 2020/21 season. In the final match, which was played at the "Rajko Mitić" stadium, Crvena Zvezda and Partizan, after 120 minutes of play and a goalless duel, the winner was decided by the kicks from the penalty mark. And the penalty roulette stopped in the red color - (0: 0, 4: 3). It is interesting that this is the second finals of the eternal rivals in the national cup, which was solved by taking penalties. The previous time it happened in 1993, when the red-and-whites also celebrated. It should be noted that FK Crvena Zvezda won the Cup of Serbia after nine years, and the "double crown" (both Championship and Cup) after 14 years.



NO ONE LIKE ŽFK SPARTAK

The champions of Serbia, women football players of Spartak, once again confirmed their dominance in domestic competitions. Boris Arsić's team won the Serbian Cup with a victory over Mašinac in Čačak (3: 1). After winning the title, the "pigeon ladies" were the best in the national cup and deservedly won the double crown.



MEMORY OF ČIČA AND SANI

The Football Association of Serbia does not forget the great personalities of our football. After a one-year break due to COVID-19 pandemic, we continued with the organization of the "Miljan Miljanić" memorial tournament. On the grounds of the sports center in Stara Pazova, the youth cadet selections of Serbia, Bulgaria, Montenegro and Northern Macedonia fought for the trophy named after one of the greatest football experts from this area, and the team of coach Radovan Krivokapić tried to celebrate this memory of the legendary "Čiča" in a winning mood.

After a great game and convincing victories against Bulgaria and Montenegro, Serbia won the seventh edition of the tournament and announced a successful start in the October qualifications for the European Championship.



At the same time, we keep the memory of the best goal-getter of all times, Slobodan Santrač – "Sani". After the end of the Serbian Ling Long Super League, we presented the "Sani" trophy to the top scorer of the domestic championship - striker of FK Radnik from Surdulica, Mr. Milan Makarić. Makarić scored 25 goals, superiorly won the first place on the list of scorers and deserved to take the big trophy named after the legendary center-forward of OFK Belgrade, FK Partizan and the national team of our country.



DONESI ODLUKU

IGRAJ ONLAJN!



GREAT PROMOTION EUROPE IS TALKING ABOUT FOOTBALL IS FOR EVERYONE! FOOTBALL IS FOR GIRLS!



We continued with the promotion of women's football on the whole territory of Serbia. Through a series of promotional videos in the realization of the FAS Marketing and Media Sector, as well as joint activities with Mozzart company, we raise awareness of equality in sports and motivate talented girls to choose football as their primary sports activity. Big campaigns are planned in all major cities of our country, with the participation of the most famous people. After the first activities that took place in Belgrade, the marketing team of our Association received recognition from UEFA and support from a large number of prominent personalities from public life, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia Ana Brnabić, Head-Coach of the "A" team Dragan Stojković and many others...

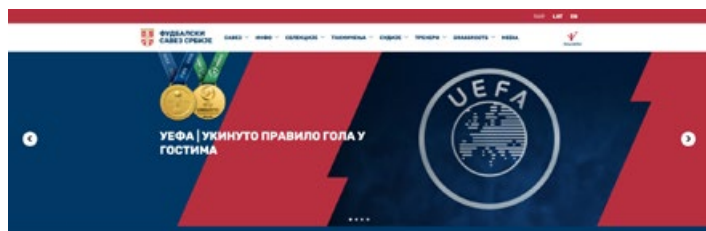


PRAISE FROM UEFA AND FIFA

ONE OF THE BEST AND MOST UPDATE INTERNET PRESENTATIONS

The Football Association of Serbia keeps up with all trends and understands the importance of new ways of communication. Accordingly, our organization is doing everything to take a prominent place in the digital world. Thanks to the creative and diligent work of the Marketing and Media sector, our Association has made additional progress in this segment as well. Creative and timely content on the website and social networks, recognizable visual identity, millions of interactions with fans from Serbia and around the world, were confirmed by the fantastic statistics data, as well as praise from all involved. We would like to single out the praises of UEFA and FIFA, as well as the Trade Union of Professional Football Players "Nezavisnost", which pointed out that the Football Association of Serbia has one of the best and most up-to-date internet presentations among national federations.

Of the numerous campaigns of the Football Association of Serbia on the social networks which have attracted the attention of the domestic and world public, we especially emphasize the way of promoting new national team jerseys, inspired by the inventions of our Nikola Tesla, one of the world's greatest scientists and inventors of all times.



INSTAGRAM

FOLLOWERS:
185K

MONTHLY

REACH:
2.2M

INTERACTIONS:
3M

COMMENTS:
9K

LIKES PER POST:
13K



TWITTER

FOLLOWERS:
45K

MONTHLY

REACH:
3M

INTERACTIONS:
300K



FACEBOOK

FOLLOWERS:
195K

MONTHLY

REACH:
1.7M

INTERACTIONS:
800K



ACTIVITY

CHEER FOR SERBIA

On the first occasion when the situation with the corona virus somewhat normalized, we continued with the activities "Cheer for Serbia", which from the very beginning aroused great interest and great reactions from the youngest football fans.

The students of the eighth grade of the elementary school "Lazar Savatić" in Zemun had the pleasure to spend some time with the legend of Serbian football, today the director of the "A" national team of our country, Stevan Dika Stojanović.

The celebrated goalkeeper spoke about the importance of supporting the national team and invited the youngest fans to be guests at the stadium on the first occasion when the audience is allowed to attend sporting events.

The visit of the director of the "A" team of Serbia was an integral part of the workshop within the educational international project "Development of a new generation of sports fans" organized by the association of fans "Džentlmeni" ("Gentlemen") with the help of professional consultants and the support of the Football Association of Serbia.

The topic of the workshops is educating children on proper behavior at stadia and sports events, raising awareness about the causes of unwanted behavior in the fan world and exchanging experiences about good fan practices, as well as promoting cheering for the national team of their country. In a very pleasant atmosphere, the students participated in a quiz on the topic of knowledge of sports and the Serbian national football team, and Stevan Stojanović, presented the jersey of our national team to the student who had the best result.



GRASSROOTS

In the previous year, there were not too many opportunities for the development of grassroots football. Before the schools switched to the distance learning system, the Football Association of Serbia, together with the Association for School Sports, launched a pilot project in Belgrade called "Let's Play Football". The UEFA Playmakers program has been successfully launched and the promotion of football for girls aged 5 to 8, who are getting in touch with sports for the first time, will be continued in the period from 2021 to 2024.

For the first time, the Football Association of Serbia has allocated significant funds and conducted a competition for the positions of regional Grassroots coordinators, which will, as of this summer, form a network, to share and realize all ideas for the development and popularization of football and promotion of fair play.

THE FAS SPORTS CENTER

The 2020/21 season was full of challenges for the work of the Sports Center of the Football Association of Serbia. Since its opening in 2011, the FAS Sports Center has successfully positioned itself in the hotel market of Serbia and has become a significant destination for sports teams, businessmen and congress tourism.

Business results for the first 10 years of its work have given the management of the FAS Sports Center credibility for more ambitious and larger goals.

In March 2020 the hotels were left without a single guest, most of them were closed, but they all agreed on one thing - that the safety of guests and workers was at the top of their priorities when certain measures were taken to preserve their health. However, regardless of everything, life did not stop, and the work had to continue, so the Football Association of Serbia used the temporary closure of the hotel for the complete renovation of accommodation, conference halls, sports sector, pitches, restaurant and cafe.

Rooms and meeting rooms are modern and elegantly furnished. They are decorated with furniture made of the highest quality materials and the finest workmanship.

The restaurant and cafe-bar are of a refined look and elegant interior for a perfect atmosphere and a complete experience of international cuisine at the top level. The hotel is decorated so that it can satisfy the needs of even the most demanding guests.

The renovation concept of the FAS Sports Center was designed to provide an exclusive experience of luxury and comfort.



THE FAS SPORTS CENTER FOR THE WHOLE SPORTS WORLD

Since its opening, the sports center has been a home to all selections of the Football Association of Serbia. Throughout the year, depending on the obligations planned by UEFA and FIFA, they stay and have preparations at the FAS Sports Center before every game or tournament.

The year 2020 started great. In January, in addition to the winter school of the youth selections, we hosted the futsal national teams of Croatia and Cyprus, as well as the handball national teams of Egypt and Kuwait. The women's volleyball and basketball teams from the United Arab Emirates also chose us as their destination for preparations.

The handball club Metalurg from Macedonia has been preparing in our sports center for the third year in a row.

The domestic super league clubs TSC from Bačka Topola and Spartak from Subotica, are always welcome guests, as well as our dear neighbors FC Borac Banja Luka. And it was so until mid-March 2020, when a state of emergency was declared in Serbia and a curfew was introduced, all caused by a pandemic. The leadership of the Association used that period in order to completely renovate the FAS Sports Center.

The hotel started working again in June and then the first guests started arriving.

Already in July, the guest was FK Crvena Zvezda for its preparations, who had the honor of being among the first to enjoy the luxurious interior of the renovated hotel Srbija LUKS.



The Football Association of the UAE bestowed us a great honor sending its best team for the preparations in our complex. FAS SC is especially proud of the continued successful cooperation with the Football Association of the United Arab Emirates and that they bestowed us honor and trust choosing our center as a destination for their sports preparations during the pandemic, when the whole world was put on hold and was in a state of uncertainty.

The best Serbia National team stayed, and had preparations in the FS Sports center in September, October and November.

The Handball Federation of Serbia has placed its trust in us by signing a Cooperation Agreement, based on which men's and women's handball selections of all age categories have their preparations in our complex.

During the fall of 2020, we also hosted football teams from Israel. Our friends from Israel, after many years of experience in working with us, believed that even in a demanding year like the previous one, we could organize sports preparations at the highest level, and we lived up to their expectations.



ABSENCE OF CORPORATE EVENTS IN 2020

As a facility of a unique type, in the past years we have gained exceptional experience in the segment of congress tourism, organizing events for renowned companies. What makes the offer of the FAS Sports Center attractive, compared to facilities of a similar kind, is certainly the possibility of combining the congress and sports-recreational segment at a high level. Examples of such a successful business concept are certainly the organization of large sports-corporate events within the center, after which satisfied customers expressed interest to continue the cooperation.

Unfortunately, during 2020, all similar activities were cancelled, and a football tournament of law firms from whole Europe was supposed to be organized in June. We organized that tournament in 2014 as well. It is interesting that, so far, law firms have never been organizing their football tournament twice in the same venue. A new contract with law firms has been signed for 2022, and we believe that they will be realized. Also, for September 2020 the organization of the big world banks football championship was also planned, as well as many bigger and smaller events, but all of them had to be canceled due to the measures and recommendation of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the COVID-19 Crisis Response Staff.

We have built an exceptional relationship of trust with our clients. They can count on our professionalism, reliability and high-level service, and all that has resulted in the creation of long-term cooperation. We believe that the situation in our country and the world will soon return to its previous state, and thus our entire business.



OPEN TO EVERYONE

In 2020/21, a season full of challenges, the FAS Sports Center managed to cope with all the new circumstances and benefit from the experience. The hotel accommodation has been completely renovated, the sports part has been renovated and in the next period our ambitions are turned to increasing the focus on promoting the renovated complex, as well as increasing the number of preparatory stays of sports teams, both football and handball, volleyball and other sports teams from the country and abroad.

Organizing tournaments, as well as organizing spring, summer and winter children's football camps are additional activities that complete our offer.

The goal of the management of the Sports Center of the Football Association of Serbia is to raise the quality of services to the highest level, to win over guests with its culture, discretion, efficiency, education and professionalism so they would travel back to their homes with a desire to return.

According to current indicators, we expect that the results in 2021 will reach a positive trend growth, both in physical terms and financially.



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