

AFC GRASSROOTS BOOK 2014 Let's Play!





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AFC Grassroots Football Day

Some 14 Member Associations (MAs) celebrated AFC Grassroots Football Day in 2013 and a year later that number had more than doubled, with 30 countries officially declaring their commitment to celebrating the 2014 AFC Grassroots Day, an event which coincides with the United Nations International Day of Families.

The MAs held festivals to encourage more children to take part in the beautiful game and conducted courses to help develop coaches at the grassroots level.

In order to support our MAs' initiatives, the AFC provided equipment such as markers, cones and mini-goals.



Participation in UEFA Study Group Scheme

Representatives from the AFC, China, India, Japan and Vietnam attended a UEFA Study Group Scheme held at St George's Park, England.

The Study Group Scheme is the European football governing body's innovative programme of technical exchange between national associations and, thanks to the ongoing understanding between the AFC and UEFA, nine delegates from Asia took part in the programme from June 9 to 12.

The exchange of views was enriched by delegation heads from European national associations and Asian Member Associations making presentations on their grassroots football schemes and providing key information for the benefit of participating nations.



AFC President's Recognition Award for Grassroots Football



India, the Philippines and Tajikistan were all recognised with the AFC President Recognition Award for Grassroots Football.

The nominations for the award are based on a points system which takes into account several criteria, such as the Member Associations' structure and management of grassroots football, as well as philosophy and policy. The MAs' grassroots partnerships with various external organisations and technical programmes such as courses and talent identification also form part of the criteria. Other criteria include grassroots activities such as promotional, educational and social responsibility activities, as well as exchange programmes such as those with schools, administrative sub regional football associations, communities and clubs.

Grassroots Certification of Appreciation



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION



FOOTBALL FEDERATION OF KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

In recognition of your remarkable efforts to develop
Grassroots football in collaboration with AFC in 2014



Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa
President



Dato' Alex Soosay
General Secretary

The AFC rewarded the Grassroots Certificate of Appreciation to MAs who showed exemplary efforts to actively develop and promote grassroots football in 2014.

The AFC believes that such efforts support the game's growth at the grassroots level, so that Asia can reap the benefits for generations to come.

Collaboration with AFC Social Responsibility Department

The AFC Grassroots Department is now closely collaborating with Social Responsibility Programmes.

One such example is the ball donation programme by the AFC, the Asian Football Development Project and the One World Futbol Project. Thanks to the programme, some 5,200 balls are to be given to selected MAs in an effort to further develop the game at the grassroots level.

The special balls, which have nearly indestructible features, do not need pumps and never deflate, making them suitable for all terrains.



Member Associations' Grassroots Football in 2014

AFGHANISTAN

A total of 240 children took part in a football festival in Kabul, held in conjunction with the AFC Grassroots Day which fell on May 15. Thirty local coaches, 15 of them women, had attended a three-day course on grassroots football a day earlier.

The Afghanistan Football Federation (AFF), in collaboration with FIFA, organised three more grassroots football festivals for children, as well as courses for coaches, local trainers and school teachers in Blakh, Heart and Parwan.

The AFF holds grassroots festivals every year across the nation as part of a major campaign to encourage the younger generation to get involved in football.





AUSTRALIA

Football Federation Australia (FFA) launched a new brand in January 2014 in the shape of modified forms of 11-a-side football designed to meet the needs of players aged between 4 and 11.

MiniRoos games are fun games that encourage players to have more contact with the ball. The promotion reached over 185,000 boys and girls across Australia.

FFA launched the Whole of Football School Strategy for 2014-2017 which is focused on generating more participants in the schoolyard. They also developed an education programme that aligns with the national school curriculum to empower teachers to become football's key school ambassadors.

FFA, in conjunction with its Member Associations, conducted over 150 coaching courses around the country, accrediting over 5,000 coaches. The courses are tailored to coaches that deliver football to grassroots participants.



BAHRAIN

The Bahrain Football Association (BFA) organised a grassroots festival to coincide with the AFC Grassroots Day on May 15. More than 150 children aged 12 and below from clubs and national football academies took part in the festival at the BFA headquarters. Twenty coaches organised the festival with parents also coming in droves to encourage their children to enjoy the game.

Attention was given to this age group so that more children could embrace the game, allowing the BFA to discover talent and raise awareness about issues that impact on families and communities. Through the festival, the BFA was also able to focus attention on principles such as unity, support and understanding, themes which are relevant to United Nations International Day of Families.





BANGLADESH

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) celebrated AFC Grassroots Day by organising a grassroots event on May 15. A total of 120 children aged from 10 to 12 participated in the event with basic skills training, small sided games and fun games.



BHUTAN

Grassroots football festivals were organised by the Bhutan Football Federation (BFF) in 17 districts in line with the AFC Grassroots Day celebration. In total 2550 children and 170 coaches were involved.

In addition, the BFF organised 18 Intra-District festivals for U-12s involving 180 teams and 2880 players. After the festivals, 288 children from 18 districts were selected for the national level festival.





BRUNEI

The National Football Association of Brunei Darussalam (NFABD) designated May as its Grassroots Football Month and organised festivals in all of the nation's four districts. Brunei Muara was the first district to experience the event which was held at the Jerudong International School, with three more festivals following suit. In total, 939 children were involved.

The NFABD's Grassroots Department took the initiative to approach local, international, as well as private schools to conduct grassroots football sessions during their Physical Education classes. The programme contributed in terms of promoting character building, discipline and social interaction.





DPR KOREA

The DPR Korea Football Association (DPRKFA) organised grassroots festivals in Pyongyang, Hamhung and Sariwon in line with the AFC Grassroots Day. About 750 children aged 9 to 12. 1200 parents participated. During the festivals, courses and seminars were held for grassroots coaches to update them on the latest methods for coaching children.



GUAM

The Grassroots Jamboree was organised by Guam Football Association (GFA) for all ages from U-6 through to U-12 and saw over 1000 children attend in one day. The event consisted of traditional drills and small sided games. The GFA also organised the 3V3 Grassroots Tournament for the second time since 2013. A team from Saipan visited the event to play fun matches with Guam teams.

The GFA placed an emphasis on coach education for grassroots coaches by inviting them to a FIFA Grassroots Coaching Course. They also organised the first GFA E Coaching Certificate Course which was for novice and intermediate coaches.





HONG KONG

A total of 13,000 boys and girls took part in a Youth Football Development Programme-Summer Scheme 2014 in Hong Kong. In response to the latest grassroots development trends as promoted by the AFC, the Summer Scheme 2014 included a number of major changes to the programme, which has been running for more than 30 years.

The Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) also organised a grassroots festival which was part of a long-term programme to attract children to the game. More than 80 participants attended the grassroots festival which was organised for newcomers to the Junior Fans Club which is run by the HKFA for children aged between 4 and 12. The young players not only participated in fun drills that involved basic techniques such as dribbling, passing, receiving and shooting, but also enjoyed pressure-free small-sided-games with their friends.





INDIA



The All India Football Federation (AIFF) celebrated its Month of Grassroots Football in May and held 62 festivals involving 5444 children in eight states. The AIFF also conducted six grassroots courses in six states, involving 149 participants in total. Additionally, 15 festivals were conducted as a part of AIFF grassroots courses taking the total number of festivals to 77.

In partnership with Football Federation Australia (FFA), the AIFF held three Grassroots Leader Courses in Manipur, Mizoram and Mumbai under in 2014. The partnership was made under the Australian Sports Outreach Programme (ASOP) India banner through the FFA to support the south Asian nation's grassroots football.



INDONESIA

The Football Association of Indonesia (PSSI) held a grassroots festival on AFC Grassroots Day at the Gelora Bung Karno Stadium which attracted some 300 children from around the capital city, Jakarta.

A grassroots clinic was delivered by instructors to 35 football school coaches, after which the festival swung into action. Three grassroots ambassadors who are former national players added spice to the festival. The national U-14 and U-23 assistant coaches also shared their knowledge with the children.





IR IRAN

The Iran Football Federation (IFF) organised more than 160 grassroots football festivals. The festivals involved some 7,000 children. National and international festivals were also organised by the IFF. The national festival attracted not only 450 children but also officials from the Ministry of Sport and Youth in the National Football Academy. The international festival included participants from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

The IFF also approved a regulation on conducting grassroots courses which allowed certified coaches to conduct grassroots courses in provinces. More than 60 courses were conducted in 28 provinces.



IRAQ

A total of 220 children aged between 8 and 12 took part in a grassroots festival in Iraq's capital city, Baghdad. The festival was attended by the governor of Baghdad, the President of the Iraqi Football Association and officials from the Ministry of Youth and Sports and Iraqi Olympic Committee, as well as the media.



JAPAN

The Japan Football Association (JFA) announced a 'JFA Declaration on Grassroots Football' on May 15. The JFA unveiled the declaration at JFA House.

JFA Declaration on Grassroots Football

Regardless of age, gender, disability or race, Football is for anyone, any time and any place. Japan Football Association wishes to share and enhance
The beauty of football and sports with more and more people.

We'll invite everyone to feel the joy of football!
By creating a variety of fantastic opportunities to meet football

We'll make football more accessible to everyone!
By offering more and more options matching your needs and wants

We'll make sure everyone will find real happiness in playing football!
By ensuring a safe and secure environment to enjoy football

More than 300 festivals were organised by 47 prefectural football associations involving approximately 300,000 children. Some 400 grassroots coaching courses were conducted for parents, school teachers, volunteers and coaches.





JORDAN

A total of 123 boys and girls - under 10 years of age - and 25 coaches took part in a grassroots festival in the capital city of Amman in May. A workshop was held before the festival to ensure that the coaches were fully equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to make sure the festival was a success. The Jordan Football Association (JFA) aims to spread the grassroots festivals throughout the country.

In terms of coach education, the JFA held workshops for male and female coaches of the Prince Ali Grassroots Centers to explain and demonstrate the JFA's grassroots vision, strategy and training methods. A grassroots coaching course for female coaches was also organised and it was supported by the Football Association of Norway. The participants were physical education teachers at schools and former national team players.





KOREA REPUBLIC

The Korea Football Association (KFA) celebrated AFC Grassroots Day by organising a festival in May in the Paju National Football Center. The activities consisted of 6-a-side football tournament with fun events such as measuring shooting speed. A total of 1,792 children participated from 128 teams.



KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

The Football Federation of Kyrgyz Republic (FFKR) held a grassroots course which was attended by 28 participants and concluded with three festivals held in Belovodsk, Kant and Bishkek. More than 200 children aged between 6 and 12 attended each festival, with approximately 30 percent of the participants being girls.

The FFKR carried out basic football skills classes for 400 children at eight orphanages and child protection centres in the Bishkek and Chui regions in June and July. Various basic skills were taught during the master classes and at the end of the sessions, the children received gifts such as balls and t-shirts, adding to their enjoyment of the event.





LAOS

The Lao Football Federation (LFF) conducted three D License Coaching Courses in Xieng Khuang, Khammuane and Bolikhamxay provinces. Six grassroots festivals were organised during the coaching courses involving more than 800 children.



LEBANON

The Lebanese Football Association (LFA) carried out a grassroots festival attended by 100 schoolchildren in the playground of the Beirut Municipality, a fiesta that organisers want to conduct annually. The goal of the festival was to entertain school children in Beirut through football and to widen their love of the sport.





MALAYSIA

The Football Association of Malaysia (FAM) organised a grassroots football festival at the National Sports Council in line with AFC Grassroots Day. It involved around 200 children aged from seven to eight years old.



MALDIVES



The Football Association of Maldives organised a grassroots course and festival which received a great response from the participating children, parents and teachers. A total of 141 children attended the festival on March 2 held at the Sharafuddin School, which was conducted by 18 coaches, eight of whom had attended a FIFA grassroots educators' course in 2012. Prior to the festival, the grassroots coaches and leaders attended a workshop from February 27 to March 1.



NEPAL

All Nepal Football Association (ANFA) conducted grassroots courses and festivals in different parts of the country. One of them was organised in Kathmandu with 700 boys and girls. Others were organised in Jhapa, eastern part of the country, and in Butwal and Bankey, western part of the country, with around 1000 children.



NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association (NMIFA) celebrated AFC Grassroots Day by conducting a 3V3 Tournament on May 15 in Saipan. 360 boys and girls under 12 participated in the event.



3 V 3 YOUTH TOURNAMENT

NMIFA 3V3 GRASSROOTS TOURNAMENT
MAY 17, 2014 LOCATION TBA

REGISTER YOUR BEST SIX-PLAYER TEAM FOR NMIFA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION'S 3 V 3 GRASSROOTS TOURNAMENT FOR YOUTH PLAYERS

REGISTRATION IS OPENING FOR TEAMS BY THE BALLS AND NETS DIVISIONS AND IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 30 TEAMS PER AGE GROUP. ALL PLAYERS MUST HAVE A VALID 2014 NMIFA YOUTH PLAYER ID CARD TO PLAY.

REGISTRATION FORMS AND RULES ARE AVAILABLE AT NMIFA OFFICES. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 670-255-0173. LOOK FOR MORE LOGOS!



PAKISTAN

Two grassroots coaching courses were organised by the Aga Khan Youth & Sports Board Pakistan and were approved by the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF). It was held in Gilgit Chitral in the northern area of Pakistan in August and September. The courses involved 230 children aged between 8 and 14. Some 24 coaches were trained by the FIFA/AFC Grassroots Instructor.



PALESTINE

The date, June 7, 2014, was a historic one for Palestine as it was the day a grassroots festival was held at MajedAsa'ad Stadium, Al Bireh. 200 children under 12, as well as 20 coaches made sure the event was a memorable one.

Twenty activity stations were made each of which catered to a certain skill or activity such as shooting, passing and so on. Palestinian Football Association Technical Director Ahmad Al Hassan and Joseph Blatter Football Academy Technical Director Adel Al Farran oversaw the festival to ensure both the children and their parents enjoyed the game.





PHILIPPINES

A total of 33 coaches completed a Grassroots Development Officer Workshop held from April 1-6 in the capital city of Lanao del Norte province. The event was the second such course organised by the Philippine Football Federation (PFF) in cooperation with FIFA, and was a continuation of a programme for coaches to enhance the PFF Kasibulan: Grassroots Football Development Programme that they had launched.

The PFF relaunched its grassroots development programme in 2012 with the philosophy of developing football in every environment in the ASEAN nation for girls and boys aged between 6 and 12 and ensuring everyone has the opportunity to play the beautiful game and have fun.

The PFF organised a grassroots festival attended by 243 boys and girls.





QATAR

The Qatar Football Association (QFA) organised ten workshops for grassroots coaches in clubs. The QFA's Grassroots Division is tasked with the annual programme for each grassroots sector within the clubs. A Technical Supervisor follows up on the club's training modules.

In cooperation with FIFA and European national associations, one FIFA grassroots coaching course, one course with the Italian Football Federation for U-8 and U-9 grassroots coaches and one course with the German Football Federation for U-10 and U-11 grassroots coaches were held. In 2014, some 14 grassroots festivals were organised.



SAUDI ARABIA

In line with AFC Grassroots Day, the Saudi Arabian Football Federation organised grassroots festivals in six regions on May 16 and 17, 2014. In total, 900 players under twelve years old enjoyed the festivals.



SINGAPORE

A celebration of the AFC Grassroots Day took place at the Jalan Besar Stadium in Singapore.

A total of 160 boys and girls aged 10 and 11 took part in the football fiesta on May 17 which comprised of two stations. It was the first time that Singapore had introduced skills stations in a grassroots festival and the young participants definitely enjoyed the mixed two-a-side games prepared for them.





SRI LANKA

The Football Federation of Sri Lanka (FFSL) organised grassroots events in ten venues on May 24 to celebrate AFC Grassroots Day. Approximately 110 boys and girls aged 11 to 12 enjoyed 5 v 5 small sided games in each venue.



TAJKISTAN

The Tajikistan Grassroots Year 2014 was successfully celebrated with more than 15,000 children taking part in 25 festivals across the nation.

The move by the Tajikistan Football Federation (TFF) is an example of the AFC's MAs using their own initiative having been spurred on by the AFC's Grassroots Year which was observed in 2013.

The 25th and last festival under the TFF Grassroots Year was held at the Central Republican Stadium in Dushanbe on November 15. A total of 160 children worked with balls, participated in football relays and learned to play the beautiful game. The festival was preceded by a FIFA Grassroots Seminar attended by 20 grassroots leaders.





THAILAND

The Football Association of Thailand (FAT) organised a training course for coaches at grassroots level together with a festival in September. 300 children participated in the event and enjoyed small sided games and skills training.

The FAT also conducted a Grassroots Football Thailand Road Trip from 2013 to 2014 involving 1,900 children to provide them with opportunities to enjoy football.



TURKMENISTAN

A festival was held in Ashgabat, an event that was also devoted to the UN's International Day of Families with the cooperation of UN agencies in Turkmenistan - namely the UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) and WHO (World Health Organization).

The festival was attended by more than 100 boys and girls as well as parents and relatives. Ten teams took part in the event, including one female football team and one team of adolescents with disabilities.





United Arab Emirates

A grassroots festival was organised by the United Arab Emirates Football Association (UAEFA) in September. 102 schools were involved. The festival was in collaboration with FIFA and in coordination with the Ministry of Education in Fujairah, Ras Al Khaimah and Dubai.

The festival's objective was to prepare young coaches to become coaches for the training schools in order to attract talented students aged between 6 and 12.



UZBEKISTAN

A total of 250 children took part in a festival organised by the Uzbekistan Football Federation (UFF) in line with AFC Grassroots Day. Tournaments for the U-8 and U-9 age categories were also held.

The matches were played at the UFF headquarters' artificial pitch with famous players also making an appearance to share the joy of the game with the participants.

The UFF organised two annual football tournaments for children. 'Football Gunchasi' tournament involved 437,128 children and 'Futbolimiz Kelajagi' tournament involved 1,025,276 school students.





VIETNAM

A total of 1,135 children, including 265 children with disabilities from 14 social centres, took part in a Fun Football Festival in Vietnam in April.

The Vietnam Football Federation (VFF) through its grassroots NGO partner, Football for All in Vietnam (FFAV), organised the event which saw 218 matches played on 19 pitches.

Thirty-three referees, observers and 60 volunteers as well as organising committee members and teachers, helped make the festival a success.

FFAV also organised the Fun Football Festival at two venues to cater for the large number of teams who attended. A total of 1,140 students and teachers in Phu Vang district in Hue province enjoyed the festival activities.



Photo: FFAV



Photo: FFAV

Acknowledgement

We express our gratitude to all Member Associations in organising activities that has brought children into football and to keep them in our game for the rest of their lives.

We also acknowledge the contribution of photographs of Grassroots football activities by the following Member Associations:

Afghanistan Football Federation, Bahrain Football Association, Bhutan Football Federation, National Football Association of Brunei Darussalam, Guam Football Association, The Hong Kong Football Association Ltd, All India Football Federation, Football Association of Indonesia, IR Iran Football Federation, Jordan Football Association, Japan Football Association, Football Federation of Kyrgyz Republic, Lao Football Federation, Lebanon Football Association, Football Association of Maldives, All Nepal Football Association, Northern Mariana Island Football Association, Pakistan Football Federation, Palestine Football Association, Philippine Football Federation, Football Association of Singapore, The Football Association of Thailand, Tajikistan Football Federation, Football Federation of Turkmenistan, UAE Football Association, Uzbekistan Football Federation and , Vietnam Football Federation.









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