



Luxembourg was one of the 5 pilot associations in 2002, so CL started here right from the very outset.

At the beginning we faced problems trying to sell it to our clubs, they were afraid of the license system. Financial criteria cost our clubs much (the annual audit costs a club for about 4500 euros, though football association pays half of the audit fees every year), also stadia infrastructure was not good at the beginning.

Infrastructure became better so that nowadays we have four category-2 stadiums in Luxembourg where UEFA competition matches can be played.

The clubs accepted the CL and became more professional in different areas. Financial state is now more transparent and the administration of the clubs has a better structure. In addition, the youth education in clubs has developed and they have now qualified coaches for all teams.

We can conclude that all the clubs of our first division are better organized and have a better structure and organization since CL has been introduced. It is worth mentioning that all the clubs of the first division has to fulfill the CL system. This is reasoning from fair play and equality.

Only the audit costs are still very high for our small clubs and there is a lot of work to fulfill about the financial criteria every year.

Our clubs think that the CL is too severe towards small clubs, especially regarding the financial criteria.

I hope that UEFA will not invent new rules or criteria to fulfill and I hope that UEFA admits that the rules of the financial fair play are not applied to our clubs, since their annual budget does not exceed 300.000-600.000 euros and there is no club with a budget more than 900.000 euro.

We do not agree in Luxembourg with UEFA's idea of CL: « one size fits all ». So since years, we've been pleading for a CL system with different levels, one strong level for big clubs and less stronger rules for small clubs. But UEFA did not want to introduce different levels regarding CL.

We would prefer that the full CL system be applied towards clubs after the preliminary round of UEFA club competitions.

Our clubs tell me very often that there is no chance to play a big club in the first round but on the other hand, the clubs have to fulfill all the same criteria as big clubs. They think that this is not just and not equal.

Our clubs do the CL procedure every year mainly to get the UEFA money and they know that they need a license to play in any UEFA competition. But some of them are still not really convinced about the benefits of the CL system.

Therefore, there is still a lot of work to cover in order to convince them about the benefits.

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