

# **POCKET GUIDE** **1st EUROPEAN FOOTBALL FANS' CONGRESS**

organised by the Football Supporters International Network (FSI)

**JULY 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**Emirates Stadium | LONDON**



# Dear participants

This is your little Guide Book for the EFFC that should show you your way to and through this 1st ever international conference of football fans.

Before we start bombarding you with the organisational facts, however, the Football Supporters Federation (FSF) as the host of this event on behalf of Football Supporters International (FSI) would like to thank you all for your commitment as we're now expecting more than 250 people from 27 different countries in Europe as well as from Israel and Azerbaijan at this event!

Thanks also to Arsenal FC for providing the premises at the Emirates Stadium free of charge and to UEFA for supporting the organisation of this EFFC, both financially and morally by contributing to the programme with a welcome speech, promoting the event and understanding its independent organisational structure.

We're looking forward to lots of (hopefully) lively debates, substantial results and most importantly, to a big get together of football fans that

care about their game, want to have a say and make a change by being committed and ready to kick-off a joint development process towards the formation of an independent European body for football fans.

As we all know, there are many problems that are shared by all football fans, no matter where they come from. At the same time, it's an equally well-known fact, that biiiiig conferences like this one, are likely to remain giant rounds of talks about minor details without a proper outcome. Let's therefore make sure that we are all prepared to avoid this by not focussing too much on single examples/experiences but discuss and work out substantial overall results in the different workshops of this congress that can lead to proper actions after the event and are relevant to all of us!

**Football Supporters International (FSI)**

# Self-Conception

The Football Supporters International (FSI) network first developed out of the collaboration of several, very different fan-related organisations in providing “fans’ embassy” advice, information and support services for football supporters at major international tournaments. The core organisations in the network, with a history of work together at European Championships and World Cups are: the German fan projects coordinated by KOS (Koordinationsstelle Fan-Projekte with the DSJ), F.A.N. / EURO SUPPORT who work with the Dutch fan projects and the national fans’ organisation SOVS, Progetto Ultra from Italy, Fanarbeit Schweiz (FaCH) from Switzerland, and from England and Wales the Football Supporters’ Federation (FSF).

At more recent tournaments, such as Euro 2004, Euro 2008 and the 2006 World Cup in Germany, the FSI has also enjoyed the participation of fans’ embassy teams from a number of other countries, including Spain, France, the Czech Republic, Croatia and Poland.

All these organisations have been very different in their composition and constitution, ranging from professional fan project workers in Germany to the membership-based representative fan organisation, the FSF, in England and Wales. Interestingly, for all the contrasts in background, all these national organisations developed very similar methods of work regarding their activities at international tournaments.

It was a natural progression from our activities in our countries of origin as well as at international level that we took up the interests of football supporters in domestic and club football too, building on the same principles of

- international goodwill,
- anti-racism and the rejection of all other forms of discrimination,
- the empowerment of grassroots football supporters and
- promoting a positive football supporters’ culture and an opposition to violence

Based on almost twenty years’ accumulated experience in these spheres, the FSI network has amassed great experience in the positive treatment of football supporters, and continues to operate in providing services of this nature on the international plane.

It has become increasingly clear to us however, particularly in the context of the modern game, that there is a burning need for supporters internationally to have a powerful, influential and independent representative voice within the structures of the game. As a consequence, in 2006 the FSI network took the decision to begin the process of kicking-off the development of a new, democratic and representative European supporters network.

We, the original FSI network members, think a fans’ network needs to speak up loudly and clearly on issues such as commercialisation, ticket prices, fan culture, discrimination, stadium bans, policing and stewarding etc. It needs to develop a media profile to answer the preconceptions and prejudices about football fans, and we need to play our full part in the future of the game.

It’s about getting people involved building on the above mentioned principles and position ourselves clearly against those that are opposed to them. Where the organisation goes from here, is your collective decision!

# EFFC Programme

## Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup>

Venue: Emirates Stadium, East Entrance, Gates H-J

Underground stations: Holloway Road , Arsenal (Picadilly line)

9.00 hrs	Arrival of participants, sign in at registration desk
10.00 hrs	Opening Welcome speech (Malcolm Clarke, FSF Chair) Welcome speech (UEFA official) Brief presentation of workshops Organisational hints
11.00 hrs	Workshops Part I Introduction of workshop participants Input speeches of guest speakers
12.00-12.30	Lunch
13.30 hrs	Workshops Part II Elaboration of outcome papers
15.30 hrs	Coffee Break
16.00 hrs	Workshop Conclusion Panel Brief presentation of every workshop and its results with concluding discussion
17.00 hrs	FSI Panel Next steps towards the establishment of a European Football Fans' Network
18.30 hrs	Good bye

# EFFC Workshops

## Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup>

### 1. Fan Culture

**Keywords:** SafeStanding, Kick-off times, Commercialisation, Choreographies, Ultras

**Chairperson:** Petter Markussen, Norsk Supporters Alliance /Norway

**Guest Speakers:** Ashley Green, Progetto Ulrà/ Italy, Peter Daykin, FootballSupportersFederation/England

### 2. Policing & Repression

**Keywords:** Stewarding&Policing, Stadium bans, violence, legislation

**Chairperson:** Michael Gabriel, Koordinationsstelle FanProjekte /Germany

**Guest Speakers:** Dr. Clifford Stott/ England  
Martin Endemann, Bündnis Aktiver Fussballfans / Germany

**Exhibition:** Tanja Paul & Sandra Schwedler, ProFans /Germany

### 3. Diversity / Anti-Discrimination

**Keywords:** Campaigning on Racism, Homophobia, Sexism, Antisemitism, Disability Rights etc.

**Chairperson:**  
Nicole Selmer, F\_in Women in Football

**Guest Speakers:**  
Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE)  
Jacek Purski, Nigdy Wiecej / Poland  
Howard Holmes, Football Unites Racism Divides (FURD)/England

### 4. Ticketing

**Keywords:** Ticket pricing, Ticket distribution in national & international football, Ticket IDs, Ticket touting

**Chairperson:** Martijn Pelle, Fan Ambassade Nederland/Holland

**Guest Speakers:** Tam Ferry, TartanArmyClubs/ Scotland, Thomas "Tower" Weinmann, Unsere Kurve/Germany

### 5. Club Ownership

**Keywords:** Supporters trusts, Membership-based clubs, Millionaire takeovers

**Chairpersons:** Dave Boyle & Antonia Hagemann, Supporters Direct/England

**Guest Speakers:** Gabriele Rechenberger, Austria Salzburg/Austria  
Emilio Abejón, Asociación Señales de Humo/ Spain

# Your Guideline Structure

for a possible outcome paper for each EFFC Workshop

This guideline structure should give you an idea about possible areas alongside of which discussions could take place during every workshop session in order to achieve sustainable results and avoid random discussions on single examples. The chairpersons will present the outcome of every workshop to all participants at the workshop conclusion panel.

What are your ideas on the issues mentioned below for the workshop of your choice?  
Feel free to make notes to yourself.

**Common issues (and if applicable: differences) for football fans in Europe for this workshop topic?**

**What should be on the agenda of a European network of Football Supporters for this workshop topic?**

**What are the general, resultant demands/objectives towards the football governing bodies in Europe for this workshop topic?**

Workshop:

# FSI Market Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>

There'll be more than 35 fans' groups, organisations and initiatives that are going to present themselves and their activities at the FSI Market which will take place in the Legends Suite at the Emirates Stadium on Saturday and Sunday.

There'll be various info stalls, an exhibition on policing and repression in football, multimedia presentations and films, showing the variety of football fans' and their activities in Europe and elsewhere.

Thanks to every group presenting themselves at the FSI Market for this commitment!

The Legends suite is also going to be the lounge for participants both of the FSF Fans' Parliament and the EFFF where they can network informally alongside the official parts of the programme or have a break and a drink.

Stalls and presentations can be put up from 9.00 hrs on Saturday morning and remain installed until after the EFFF on Sunday.

# FSF Fans' Parliament Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>

**Venue:** Emirates Stadium, Islington, London – East Entrance, Club Level, Gates H-J

**Underground stations:** Arsenal, Holloway Road

Registration from 9.00 hrs

Beginning: 10.00 hrs – End: approx. 17.30 hrs

The Football Supporters Federation (FSF) is the biggest national federation of football fans in England and Wales, representing more than 140,000 individual members and affiliates. The FSF Fans' Parliament is their annual general meeting.

There'll be debates and seminar sessions on many important issues facing our game, including

- Ticket prices and distribution (time for a new deal for fans on prices and access to tickets)
- Governance and fair competition (keeping out the crooks, the ever-increasing gap between the Premier league elite and the rest)

- Laws of the game (was the game's law-maker IFAB right to jettison goal-line technology? What about dissent and respect?)

- The non-league pyramid (nourishing the grass roots of our game in both England & Wales)

- Diversity (the struggle to ensure playing, administering and watching the people's game is open to all)

All EFFF participants also registered for the Fans' Parliament are cordially invited to take part in this event as observers. Please sign in at the registration stall at the Emirates Stadium on Saturday morning.

# EFFC Framework Programme

## Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

**19.00 hrs** EFFC Kick-off – Get together in a “traditional” South American - English Pub  
Venue: El Commandante/Lord Palmerston Pub, 10 Annette Road, London  
Underground station : Holloway Road

## Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>

**14.00 hrs** Fan-friendly matches at Paradise Park  
Meeting Point: EFFC registration desk, Emirates Stadium, East Entrance, Club Level  
Guided stadium tours – AFC Legends  
Meeting Point: EFFC registration desk, Emirates Stadium, East Entrance, Club Level

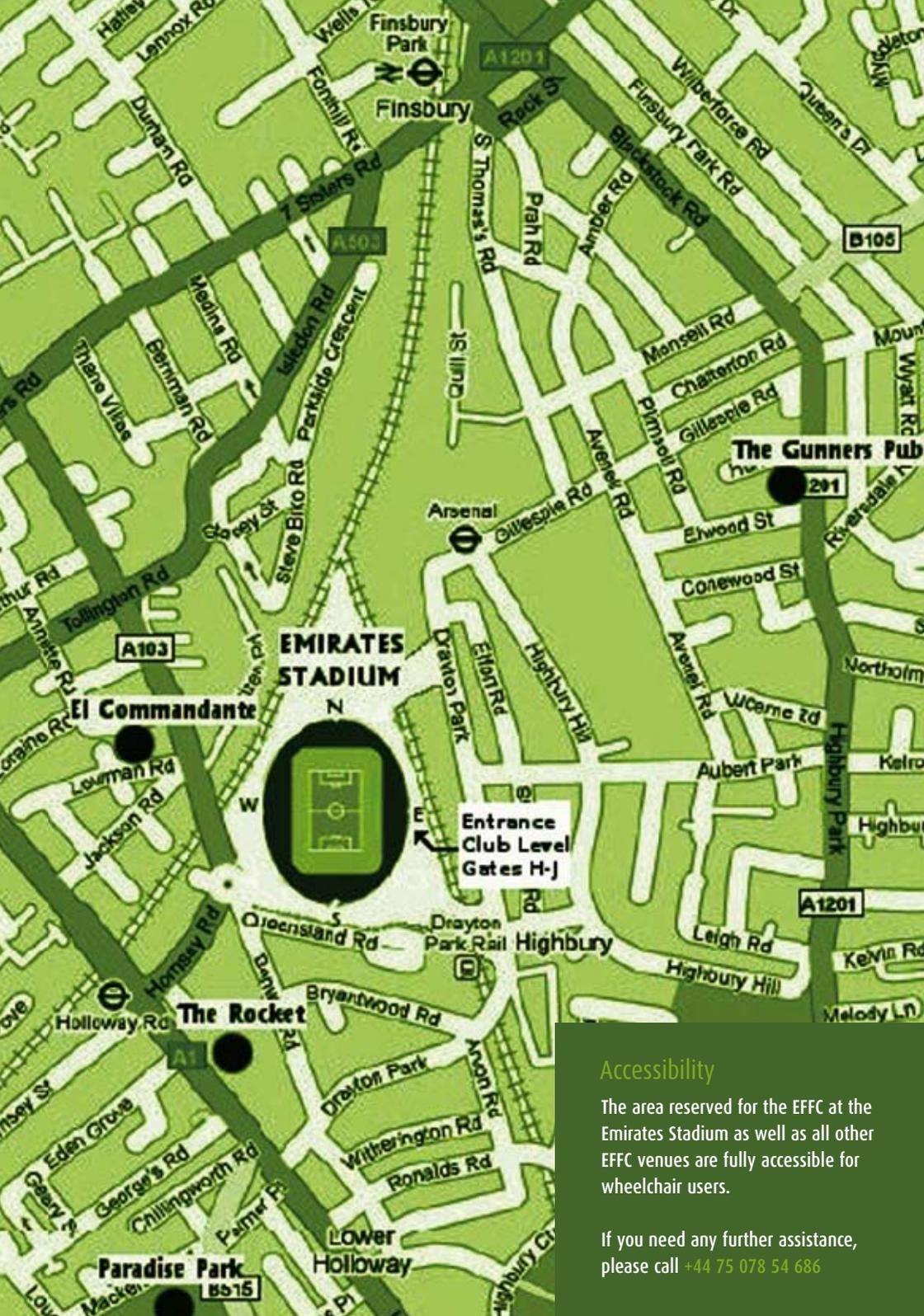
**19.00 hrs** EuropeanFootballFansAllnighter  
No.1 Station (Ska/Dub/Reggae, London, UK),  
DJ Johnny Slender (Moonstomp Leeds, UK)  
DJ Tim Keenoy (London, UK)  
Dinner Buffet  
Venue: The Rocket, 166-220 Holloway Road, London  
Underground station: Holloway Road

## Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup>

**19.30 hrs** Final Whistle – Get together in a Gunners Pub  
Venue: The Gunners Pub, 204 Blackstock Road, Finsbury Park, London  
Underground stations: Arsenal, Finsbury Park

At each evening event of the framework programme, every participant registered for the EFFC will get one drink for free. Please pick up your tokens from the stall at the entrance of each venue, to make use of

this offer! Don't forget to bring your invitation in order to get your wristband which will – amongst others - serve as your token for the meals provided on Saturday and Sunday!



### Accessibility

The area reserved for the EFC at the Emirates Stadium as well as all other EFC venues are fully accessible for wheelchair users.

If you need any further assistance, please call +44 75 078 54 686



# Getting around in London

It is highly recommended to get around by public transport as the public transport system in London usually works well and driving by car in central London can develop into something of a nightmare.

If you travel by public transport, it is advisable to buy a so-called Oyster Card as the public transport fares on Oyster usually are up to half the price (!) compared to single tickets. You can use the Oyster Card both for travelling on the bus and the underground trains.

You can buy an Oyster Card at almost every ticket office at the underground stations as well as at several shops in town. Oyster Cards are available as pay as you go cards – you simply buy a card for a £3 deposit without the need to share your personal data with anyone. The card can be

topped up with money for your travel through London at almost every ticket machine where you can purchase ordinary tickets, too.

As soon as they are topped up with money, simply touch your Oyster Card flat on the yellow oyster card readers everytime when you enter or leave an underground station as well as when you enter a bus (not when you get off a bus).



## CONTACT | IMPRINT

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Football Supporters International



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# In this guide book...

you'll find the final programme and the workshops including their guest speakers and chairpersons. There also is a structure for an outcome paper which could serve as a guideline for every workshop, to achieve sustainable results and avoid random discussions which lead nowhere in particular.

We're also glad that we managed to organise a framework programme for you around this European Fans' Congress, the details of which are also presented in this EFFC Guide. The activities comprise both informal get-togethers in pubs around the ground, fan-friendly matches, guided tours of the Emirates Stadium and the Football Fans Alliance on Saturday night, featuring the London-based ska

band No1Station, two DJs and a dinner buffet. Finally, we've compiled some bits and bobs of information for you that might help you and your budget to get around in London. This includes a map of the EFFC venues and the London underground network, as well as some useful tips for the transport ticket system which could save you a fortune in expensive England!

Alright! We have tried our best to make everything as interesting as possible for you and hope that the upcoming EFFC will go down in your memories as a big kick-off event full of fun, good people and debates.

Thanks for coming, and for your commitment as football fans.



Football Supporters International