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On 2008-08-22, David Carli stepped down as CENF president and he appointed Iain Jeffree as the new CENF president. Nathan Mackenzie is still the CENF vice president. For more information, visit the CENF website at: www.cenf.eu

From now on, "CENF News" will be coming out once every two months (every 1st of October, December, February, April, June and August) and "Alternative Football News" will also be coming out once every two months (every 1st of September, November, January, March, May and July). And we will have extra editions for special events coming out after the special events (for example: Viva World Cup special coming out after Viva World Cup)

Are you interested in NF-Board, CSANF, CENF, non-FIFA football or football in general? Then you can join the CENF internet forum at: <http://cenf.yuku.com>

(www.cenf.eu)

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A New World To Discover

by Marco Calapez

In a world that is changing every day, with this amount of historical and political disturbances, with countries becoming split up and others becoming united, the NF-Board have a great amount of potential members, but can they truly become members in the future? A lot of problems are attached with that kind of involvement with an organisation that acts outside one of the most powerful enterprises in the world. Here we will try to mention the potential members of NF-Board and to identify those that have bigger probabilities to become members in the near future.

We can split up the potential members in several categories, by continent, by their size, by their status and even by their type of FA:

First of all we have the nations that are fully sovereign but not members of FIFA like Kosovo and Vatican in Europe and Nauru and Marshall Islands in the Oceania, apart from the last one, all nations already have an FA.

A second group of potential nations for NF-Board are those nations that are non-sovereign or unrecognised but that already operate as if they were full national teams like Gibraltar, Guernsey, Isle of Man or Jersey in the UK and Mayotte, Wallis and Futuna, Guadeloupe, French Guiana or Martinique that are related to France, the last three teams also members of CONCACAF (North, Central American and Caribbean confederation of FIFA), which is probably not a problem since Zanzibar is both member of CAF (African confederation of FIFA) and NF-Board.

All over Europe due to its history with several centuries we can find a lot of regions that have a particular culture, tradition and even different language inside a sovereign country. Their problem is the fact that most of them are related to a main FA that is member of FIFA and an affiliation to NF-Board without the acceptance and agreement of the main FA could cause a lot of internal problems and problems between FIFA and that FA, as we can see, in NF-Board there is just one FA that is on the same time member of NF-Board and part of a FA registered in FIFA, which is the Gozo Island FA that have a particular status within the Maltese Football Association. The option to solve this problem is the creation of a different FA that is not members of the national football pyramid that would deal with the NF-Board, we already have some examples of that situation in Brittany as example.

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In Europe we could find that type potential members in Spain (Andalusia, Aragon, Asturias, Balearic Islands, Basque Country, Cantabria, Canary Islands, Castille-y-Leon, Catalonia, Ceuta, Extremadura, Galicia, Melilla, Murcia, Navarre and Valencian Community), Portugal (Azores Islands and Madeira), France (Alsace, Brittany, Corsica, Normandy, Savoy) or Italy (Aosta Valley, Umbria, Calabria..).

But there's more than official regions in Europe, some of the members can come from places that have a special status like Republika Srpska, Russian republics (Bashkortostan, Tatarstan, Tuva, Karelia, Kalmykia, Dagestan ... [Chechnya is already a NF-Board member]), autonomous provinces or regions (Vojvodina, Gagauzia, South Tyrol), de facto independent republics (Abkhazia, Transnistria, Nagorno-Karabakh or South Ossetia), autonomous republics (Crimea) and historical regions (Silesia).

Different parts of the world due to their structures in the past had developed several regional teams that usually competes or competed in the past between them and against other national teams outside their territory. We have examples of this kind of teams specially in China (with Guangxi Zhuang, Ningxia Hui and Inner Mongolia) and in India (with Kashmir, Nagaland, Delhi, Goa, Mizoram, Orissa, Punjab, Kerala, Haryana and Sikkim among others that compete in the Santosh Trophy) where the regional teams compete yearly in a national tournament. Those are teams that would be easily accepted by the NF-Board to be part of their family.

Another potential group of members of the NF-Board are the islands that exist all over the world, they belong to a sovereign country, but has an island they have all the problems related to their geography and most of their players don't have a chance in the FIFA world. There is already an organization that comprises several potential members, which is the Island Games Association which has as members some of the nations we mentioned before and also others like Aaland, Alderney, Froya, Gotland, Hitra, Isle of Wight, Minorca, Western Isles, Orkney, Prince Edward, Rhodes, Saarema, Sark, Shetland, Saint Helena and Anglesey. Apart from those that take part of the Island Games there are a lot more that with some work could become members, like Andaman & Nicobar Islands (India), Ascension Island (UK), Tristan da Cunha (UK), Rodrigues (Mauritius), Crete (Greece), Öland (Sweden), Sardinia (Italy), Sicily (Italy), Ischia Island (Italy), Svalbard (Norway), Bornholm (Denmark), Juan Fernández Islands and Easter Island (Chile) or Galapagos Islands (Ecuador).

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If we take a look at Oceania or at the Caribbean sea, then that amount of potential members will increase in a significant way, with Nevis, Tobago, Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, Saint Croix, Saint Thomas and others (which have in common the fact that they are from the Caribbean sea and they are already active FAs with a record of matches all over the years) or with Tasmania, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Hawaii in the Pacific Ocean.

But when we talk about islands, specially the isolated ones, it isn't easy to work in a proper way with them because for inefficient work the FAs or the NF-Board would have to use a lot of money since it's not easy to organize travels for that kind of places.

A different type of potential members are those characterised by their language. Occitania is already part of NF-Board and other linguistic could join it. Matches already take place in the past involving that kind of teams like Romandy and Deutschschweiz that are linguistic parts of Switzerland.

If we take a close look into the actual members of NF-Board we find another two type of FAs, those representing ethnical teams and others representing micronations.

About ethnical or indigenou teams we can easily identify several in Africa and in America, in Africa we have for example Edo, Igbo and Yoruba in Nigeria that competed between them in the past, in America the majority of the potential members of the CSANF like Quechuas, Aymaras and Mapuches and others like Sioux and Inuit.

The last group are those that split up peoples opinion, allow or disallow micronations to be part of the organization? in the NF-Board there is already FAs representing Sealand or Saugeais, so it's probable that others could have their registration accept, the most reknown are Republic of Minerva, Principality of Trinidad, Principality of Seborga and UMMOA (United Micronations Multi-Oceanic Archipelago).

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FA of the month: Monaco

by Nathan Mackenzie

The microstate of Monaco in terms of football is mostly famous due to AS Monaco the Ligue 1 side that plays in the principality. In the early years of the club many of the players came from the principality but by turn of the new century the club no longer had Monegasque players in the team. With other microstates in Europe such as San Marino and Liechtenstein with their own FA's and already competing in UEFA and FIFA competition the FMF was set up to create a national team and league for the people of Monaco.

The FMF (Monegasque Football Federation) was created in 2000 and was the first football association to join the NF-Board. They played their first match in Germany against Tibet and came out 2,1 winners that night in 2001. They have also being the only international team to play the Vatican City with the match ending 0-0. Also they have beaten Chechnya 13-1 and have also being beaten 7-1 by Kosovo. They also competed in the inaugural VIVA World Cup in 2006 and after beating Occitania two heavy defeats by Sapmi especially the final which ended 21-1 to Sapmi showed the lack in depth in the Monaco side. The men's national team play in white and red with a women's team yet to play an international match.

The League set up by the FMF consists of four divisions of 7/6 teams. The last 1st league champions were Sun Casino with SMA in second. The league is amateur and most of the clubs are sponsored by local business which is the case for why some teams are called Carre Four and HSBC Private Bank. If I was a betting man I would have Sun Casino as odds on favourites to win the league again this year.

Monaco may not be part of UEFA or FIFA but they are an important member of the NF-Board and the FMF league provides and outlet for local players to play football and the job the FMF do is very good for such a small population. With AS Monaco still in the French top flight it may be many years from now that we see Monaco playing in the FIFA World Cup but for the moment they can play in the VIVA World Cup and hopefully soon maybe the CENF European Cup.

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Christmas Island & Cocos Islands

by Nathan Mackenzie

(Part 2 of Nathan's Isolated Football Communities)

The Cocos (Keeling) Islands are a group of islands and a territory of Australia and are situated in the Indian Ocean half way between Sri Lanka and Australia. The collection of two atolls and twenty seven coral islands have a population of 628. Lying in the middle of nowhere with a small population means competitive football for the islanders is hard to find. Luckily though CKIFF the football federation for the islands manages to arrange the Inter Island Cup against Christmas Island another Isolated community in the Indian Ocean. Cocos played their first international game on June the 1st 1994 against Christmas Island and ended up losing 4-1. The next game for them was three days later against the same opposition and that time the game ended scoreless and that was the best game for the Island side until 11 years later the two teams met again for the 9th time with this being an away game Christmas were expected to win as usual but Cocos put in a good defensive performance and came out 1-0 winners which is to this day the only win for the national team. The team play in yellow and black to represent the sandy beaches with their away colours being blue and white to represent the sea that surrounds the islands. The team is not ranked by Elo or the Roon Ba. Cocos have yet to play another team other than Christmas Island due to travel expenses but maybe soon the team may play teams from the Australian mainland and may even join the NF-Board and maybe able to arrange more games through them.

Christmas Island has a shared football history with Cocos in respect as they have also only played the Cocos Islands in the Inter Island Cup. Christmas Island have won eight of the ten contests with the other two being a draw and a loss. They play in mainly black with some red. They are as well not members of any football confederation and are potential members for the NF-Board.

Maybe one day these two small footballing islands may compete on a bigger stage against teams out of the Indian Ocean, but it's yet to be seen.

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Contact

Feel free to contact the CENF about your questions, comments and/or suggestions. You can contact the CENF by sending an e-mail to: info@cenf.eu

Message from the editor-in-chief

Thank you for reading Alternative Football News!

David Carli