

# Centre for Access to Football in Europe



# CAFE

The Centre for Access to Football in Europe (CAFE) is a European wide charity established to achieve equal access to football: Total Football - Total Access, and is an UEFA CSR associated partner.

CAFE is working with key stakeholders towards one clear aim; a more accessible and inclusive matchday experience for disabled fans across Europe.

CAFE delivered the official UEFA EURO 2012 Respect Inclusion project in Poland and Ukraine and maintains a strong presence in both host nations having been the official charity of UEFA EURO 2012.



Total Football - Total Access

[www.cafefootball.eu](http://www.cafefootball.eu)

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**RESPECT**



# Access for All - UEFA and CAFE Good Practice Guide

To assist stadiums and their clubs, UEFA and CAFE have published 'Access for All' - the UEFA and CAFE Good Practice Guide to Creating and Accessible Stadium and Matchday Experience.

This access guide, which is based on European standards and regulations, sets out UEFA and CAFE's minimum requirements and provides a benchmark of good practice for new and existing stadiums.

Access for All is available in 13 languages including Polish and can be downloaded at: [www.cafefootball.eu/en/access-all](http://www.cafefootball.eu/en/access-all)





# Disabled football fans in Europe

There are more than 80 million disabled people (approximately 12%) living in the Europe Union alone which is equivalent to the populations of Belgium, the Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary and the Netherlands combined.

At least 0.5 million are likely to be active disabled football fans, with many more aspiring to become match going fans. For this to be possible, stadiums and arenas must be accessible and welcoming to all.



**“Football is a sport for everyone no matter what their creed, colour or religious belief and as such the experience of witnessing a live football match, and the highs and lows it brings to fans around the world, should also be accessible to all – and yet it is not.”**

Gianni Infantino, UEFA General Secretary.



**“Quite simply, I just love football. We want to help to make the stadium as accessible and welcoming as it can be, for this would benefit everybody.”**

Polish disabled fan



**“I think that watching my team is like the engine in a motorbike. The more I watch them, the more it pushes me to work hard”**

Polish disabled fan



**“Just being in the stadium gave me a huge boost of energy, emotion and confidence. Watching football on the television is good, but nothing compares to being there live”**

Ukrainian disabled fan





# Access and inclusion across European football stadia



Most people will require easy access at some point in their lives and good access can be useful to everyone; including pregnant women, families with small children, older people and people with temporary injuries. This is equal to around 20% of the population at any given time.

**As many as 97% of Europeans think that something should be done to better integrate disabled people into society.**

Good access is essential for disabled people to be able to exercise their rights and participate fully in society





# What do we mean by an accessible stadium and matchday experience?

To ensure an inclusive welcome for disabled fans it is necessary to include accessible (disabled-friendly) facilities and services.

These may include:

Accessible information and materials (e.g. large print, Braille, audio);

Accessible signage, entrances, lifts, parking and drop-off points;

Accessible toilets, refreshment areas and amenities;

A choice of accessible seating areas for disabled fans in all areas of the stadium; able to sit alongside family and fellow fans (both home and away).

**CAFE is providing free disability awareness and etiquette training to clubs and stadiums and assisting them in finding more accessible matchday solutions.**





# Audio descriptive commentary for blind fans

**Audio descriptive commentary is a dedicated service provided for blind and partially sighted fans so that they can enjoy the live matchday experience alongside their fellow fans.**

The commentary is delivered by specially trained commentators, and ensures that the listener has a complete understanding of the match they are attending.

The commentator provides additional narration that describes all the surrounding and significant visual information; including the scenery and action on the field and in the stands, clothing, colours, body language, facial expressions and anything else that is important to convey the match action and overall ambience of the event.



**"At the start, I commented that listening to a football match was often like a black and white movie. By the end of it, I saw a rainbow"**

**Ukrainian disabled fan**





# CAFE provides stadium information for a range of clubs around Europe



These can be found on our website via the stadium menu, e.g. [www.cafefootball.eu/en/clubs/wembley-stadium](http://www.cafefootball.eu/en/clubs/wembley-stadium)

You can leave your own feedback and comments on the stadiums you visit.

Thank you for taking the time to read this presentation and your kind support for CAFE and our works.

Together we can help to improve the lives of many disabled people around Europe through football and its fans.

You can find more information about CAFE and our works by contacting us directly and / or by visiting our website:

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