Talent Development in the Netherlands
The Netherlands (1)

Football Sport nr. 1

Football in figures
- 1,200,000 members
- 115,000 Girls & Women
- 3,369 Amateur clubs
- 6040,000 Youth players

16,595,624 inhabitants

UEFA Study Group Scheme//KNVB//Girls and Women's Football//Women's Football Development//10 March 2010
The Netherlands (2)

- National office in Zeist
- 6 District offices
- 8 National staff coaches
- 20 District staff coaches
- 49 Regional Coaches
- 49 Regions (+/- 50 clubs)
- 200 Instructors (Part-time)

Influencing all youth coaches, officials and other volunteers in the clubs.
Master Plan Objectives

- Retain the position of football in the Netherlands
- Retain/improve the Netherlands’ position in the FIFA ranking (top10)
Points of departure:

• Individual development of youth players

• Coherence between top sport & grass roots
Dutch Secrets ?? NO!

- Structure of clubs and competitions
- 'Club life'
- Develop Coaches
- Develop Players
SCORING TOGHETER
policy document Football
2009–2014

Football is for everybody.

Continue activities
Masterplan 2001–2011
• **Mission:** Football is our life
  Promote an active and passive football experience

• **Four Main themes:**
  1. Developing and Winning
  2. Organizing and Facilitating
  3. Playing football together and living together
  4. To experience and to connect

• **Ambitions:**
  • Increase talent players
  • Win a World Championship or European championship
  • More players (male/female)
  • Exciting competitions
  • Attractive football environment for volunteers
Vision, Objectives and Starting points

- Stimulate football.
- What is Football? (Structure of Football).
- Learning by doing (Vision on learning).
- Central for every individual is football experience and development perspective (individual central).
- Learn people (players / coaches / clubs) to do it themselves.
- Coherence between grass roots and top.
Goal area - From Grass roots to Top

National Teams

Talent development, specific approach
Coaches should be coaching
girls, women, boys, men

Club- & Coach Development

Social Responsibility

General approach, Attention for different target groups
Developing – talented – players

In former days:
• learning football on the streets
• organized club football from the age of 12
• a lot of self initiative

Nowadays:
• organized in clubs
• start at the age of 5
• many volunteer coaches
Developing players

- 10,000 hours of playing
- Offer them a football context
  - many games
  - many good training sessions
  - stimulate home-work
The Dutch way

1. Individual development and team development
2. Youth development for all players is a responsibility of the KNVB and the Clubs
3. The best players play with the best against the best in all ages?
4. Talented players have about 6 training sessions and 1 or 2 competitive games per week.
5. Well educated and football experienced coaches for all players.
The new situation

Regional Development Centers

Prof football / Top Amateur

Amateur football
Organization Youth Leagues

Youth Leagues in each of 6 Districts and National

- u19
- u17
- u15
- u13
- u11
- u9
- u7
- u6

Organized Club football from the age of 5!
Structure Youth Competitions (b & g / highest level)

• U 7 - U 12 -> play in their region
• U 13 -> 3 First divisions / 6 Second divisions (district)
• U 14 -> A separate competition for professional football clubs
• U 15 -> 2 First divisions / 4 Second divisions
• U 17 -> Premier league / 2 First divisions
• U 19 -> Premier league / 2 First divisions
Youth Leagues
the best players against the best

National Youth Leagues:

Premier

2x First Division

4x / 6x Second Division

etc., etc.
Objectives KNVB

- Increase level of Football of girls and women.
- More girls playing football.
How are we doing this?

• Youth plan
  – “Selection” football - the best with and against the best
  – Activities beside club activities

• Coach development (courses)
  – Pupils (age U.6 - U.13)
  – Junior (age U.14 – U.19)
  – UEFA C (Junior and Senior)
  – Technical Youth Co-ordinator

• Football Development
  – School projects
  – KNVB Youth football days
  – Friends days for girls
  – Girls Football day
Development Women

Top sport/Talent
Talent Development
Youth Plan 12-19 jaar
National Teams U.15/U.17/U.19

Top sport
National Women’s Team
Premier League Women

Grassroots
Introduction
Projects
Football development

Grassroots
Football at club
Youth Football –
age 6 - 13
Mixed Competition

Competition
Junior: U.15/U.17/U.19
Senior: All competitions

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Huidige situatie JPN

Regionale Jeugdopleiding / BVO

KNVB

NO19

NO18

NO17

6 x DO16 av / NO16

6 x DO15 av / 6 x DO15 / N-SO15

6 x D014 av / 6 x DO14

49 x R013 / 20 x IR O13 / 6 x DO13

49 x R012

Ca. 200 veldvoetbalverenigingen per voetbalcentrum
**Adults: Development of Excellence (Nat. Team)**

**Structure Grass roots**

U.19 → Mixed Gender Football

U.15 → Projects School & Sport  
= Aim: 12 projects

U.12 → Mixed Gender Football  
= All Leagues

U.8 → Promotional Projects  
School Football / Friends Days = 3x49 Projects

**Structure Talent Development**

Senior → Premier League  
Women = 6 teams

U.17/21 → Premier League +  
KNVB Talent team = 1 team

U.16/17 → 1 / District = 6 teams

U.15 → 1 / District = 6 teams

U.14 → 1/2 team(s) / District  
= 6-10 teams

U.13 → 3/4 teams / District  
= 18 - 20 teams

U.12 → talent development  
previous season = 49 groups

U.19 → National Team

U.17 → National Team

U.15 → National Team

U.19 → National Team

Senior: Talent Development  
Development of Excellence  
(Nat. Team)

U.8 → Promotional Projects  
School Football / Friends Days = 3x49 Projects

U.12 → Mixed Gender Football  
= All Leagues

U.15 → Projects School & Sport  
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U.19 → Mixed Gender Football
Youth Football (Boys & Girls)
KNVB Policy

Youth Football = Girls and Boys
• Create a top sport culture and top sport attitude by the players.
• To create a platform of which young girls can dream.
Starting Point!

Every child has the right to play sport with other children of the same age and level within a club that suits him/her.

Girls and boys do learn the game in the same way: the YOUTH FOOTBALL LEARNING PROCESS
Youth Football

The solution for our youth players was Mixed Gender Football

- In The Netherlands this is possible in all Youth Leagues and the lower Adult Leagues.
- The highest talented female youth players all play with and against boys.
- Talented female youth players could further develop within our Youth Plan (12-19 years).
Players (boys/girls) are put together on the base of

- age;
- level;
- personal ambition.

_not by gender_
(club and league)
What does this mean for the players?

- They play with players (boys/girls) of the same age.
- They play at their own level.
- They can play at any club.
- Short travel distances to opponents.
- Much more enjoyment!
Possibilities

Girls have the choice to play:

- In a girls team in a girls competition.
- In a mixed youth team.
- In a girls team in a boys competition.
FOOTBALL IS OUR LIFE