

FC Utrecht



History

- FC Utrecht came into being in 1970 as a merger of three clubs from the city of Utrecht: DOS, Elinkwijk and Velox.
- FC Utrecht participated many times in European football competition but it never featured in the UEFA Cup (current Europa League) after 1991 and had to wait for ten years to play European football again.
- DOS won the National Championship in 1958. FC Utrecht has won the KNVB Cup three times: 1985, 2003 and 2004. In 2004 FC Utrecht won the Johan Cruyff Shield (Dutch equivalent of Charity Shield). Doing so, FC Utrecht was the first club outside the traditional top three consisting of Ajax Amsterdam, Feyenoord Rotterdam and PSV Eindhoven to win this trophy.
- FC Utrecht is also the only club outside the traditional top three that has never been relegated from the Dutch Eredivisie.

Stadium

- FC Utrecht's stadium is the Stadion Galgenwaard (named after the area) with a current capacity of 24,500 seats. The average attendance in 2010/2011 was 20,600 people.
- Seven international matches of the Dutch National Football Team were played in the stadium, the first one being on April 27, 1983: a friendly against Sweden (0–3). The last one, played on September 3, 2004, was also a friendly: a 3–0 win against Liechtenstein.
- The stadium was also the host in 2005, for the final of the FIFA U20 Football World Youth Championships. Argentina won the final, beating Nigeria 2–1, with 2 goals from Lionel Messi.
- A fan shop, restaurant(s), business lounges, meeting rooms, offices, fan café, business units, skyboxes and heated seats are available at the stadium.
- The youth facility and training grounds for the first team of FC Utrecht are located right next to the stadium.



First team

- The first team consists of 29 full pro players from eleven different countries (Netherlands, Japan, Australia, Belgium, Zambia, Ghana, Indonesia, Sweden, Morocco, Romania and France).
- Head Coach is Mr. Jan Wouters (formerly of Ajax Amsterdam and Glasgow Rangers).
- Notable former players are : John Obrien (USA), Michael Silberbauer (Denmark), Wlodzimierz Smolarek (Poland), Dirk Kuyt (Holland), Willem van Hanegem (Holland), Hans van Breukelen (Holland), Ricky van Wolfswinkel (Holland), Kevin Strootman (Holland), Dries Mertens (Belgium), Michael Mols (Holland) and Dick Advocaat (Holland).
- Notable former coaches are: Erwin Koeman (Holland), Willem van Hanegem (Holland), Ronald Spelbos (Holland) and Foeke Booy (Holland).
- Current Technical Director is Mr. Foeke Booy (formerly of Club Brugge and Sparta Rotterdam).
- Nine players of the current first team came out of the youth system/academy of FC Utrecht.



Ownership and Management

- On 2 April 2008 it was announced that former owner of Mammoet, Mr. Frans Van Seumeren, had taken over 51% of the shares of FC Utrecht.
- The board of FC Utrecht has further announced that, because of the money they received for this take over, there will be more room for youth facilities and scouting. The board wants FC Utrecht to be competing within the top 6 of the Eredivisie by 2013.
- Mr. Frans van Seumeren invested more than EUR 30.000.000 since his arrival into the club.
- In 2011, Mr. Wilco van Schaaijk was appointed Chief Executive, replacing Mr. Jan Willem van Dop (2005-2011).



Youth Program

- FC Utrecht's youth academy is situated next to the stadium at Zoudenbalch complex.
- FC Utrecht has a reserve team (under 23), A1 team (U19), B1 team (U17), B2 team (U16), C1 team (U15), C2 team (U14), D1 team (U13) and D2 team (U12).
- FC Utrecht scouts players all ages within a 50km radius around Utrecht.
- They have their own soccer school (ages 9-11) and they train one/two days a week at FC Utrecht while staying with their (amateur) club for games and other practices.
- All FC Utrecht youth teams play at the highest Dutch youth levels and compete against the youth programs of Ajax Amsterdam, Feyenoord Rotterdam, PSV Eindhoven, FC Twente and others represented at the top Dutch youth levels.
- The youth program is awarded with four stars (highest possible) rating by the KNVB (Dutch Football Association).
- Many of the youth coaches at the FC Utrecht academy are full time employees of the club.
- Chief Scout is former player Mr. Edwin de Kruyff.
- Academy Director is former player Mr. Henny Lee.



Womens Soccer

- Women's team joined the newly formed Women's Ere-divisie in 2007.
- Winners of Dutch KNVB Cup for Women in 2010 (runners up in 2008).
- Winners of Dutch Super Cup for Women in 2010.
- Squad consists of twenty players and has several Dutch Women's National team members.
- Well known Dutch player on squad is Anouk Hoogendijk (member of Dutch Women's National team that reached the semi-finals at UEFA Euro Championships in 2009).
- Head coach is former FC Utrecht player Mark Verkuyl
- FC Utrecht women form a partnership with vv Seastum women's program (younger ages).
- Women's team plays it home games at youth and training ground Zoudenbalch complex.
- Players receive access to all facilities of FC Utrecht and get all their expenses reimbursed.
- Players do not receive a salary from the club.



GIS and FC Utrecht

- In January 2012 FC Utrecht and Atlanta based Global Image Sports (GIS) signed a partnership.
- GIS will assist FC Utrecht in establishing the FC Utrecht North American Academy.
- Ten to twenty US youth clubs (of 1.000-2.000 members each in size) join the FC Utrecht North American Academy thus making sure that 10.000-25.000 US youth players and their families become familiar with the FC Utrecht brand.
- FC Utrecht is the first Dutch club to enter the large US market in this unique way.
- GIS and FC Utrecht set up a series of player identification camps across the United States to start scouting players for the main FC Utrecht academy in the Netherlands.
- The US youth clubs and their staff get access to one of the best youth programs in the Netherlands and Europe.
- For more information visit: www.fcutrechtnorthamericanacademy.com or www.globalimagesports.com.



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