

THE NEW EUROPEAN FOOTBALL POOL

It isn't a secret any longer: The European Football Pool, long an Intertoto service to its members who market soccer pools, has undergone a major restructuring process. The reason is of course participation in the new UEFA-Intertoto Cup – a means of giving clubs that fail to qualify for the UEFA Cup directly a second chance and the toto companies an opportunity to bridge football's summer break with an attractive schedule of games.

In '95, the European Football Pool has undertaken to contribute an annual share of CHF 1.7 million (\$ US 1.48 million) to the tournament's annual budget. Surpluses from marketing the UEFA-Intertoto Cup are distributed among participating clubs. UEFA is in charge of the marketing process.

Legal and financial ramifications

Legally, the new EFP continues to be a Society under Swiss law. Its bylaws had to be revised to allow for the new situation and the greater number of participating companies. All participating toto company representatives ratified the restructuring process on April 7 at Austrian Lotteries' new Vienna headquarters.

Turnover, profit, and number of participating teams in the toto company's country, as well as how many toto companies participate overall in any one year, determine the size of the membership fees in the European Football Pool, which are set each year by the EFP's annual meeting of delegates. □



It's the turn of Reinhard Horvath of Austrian Lotteries to sign the new agreement. From right to left: Ms. Schnyder and Messrs. Johansson, Horvath, Stickler and Frigren.

The new European Football Pool in brief

The new executive committee. President: Lennart Johansson, Sweden, (reelected). Vice-President: Friedrich Stickler, Austria, (reelected). Members: Richard Frigren, Sweden, (reelected); Erich Holzmeier, Germany, (reelected); Georg Kennel, Switzerland, replacing retired Emil Fischli; Michael Thielsen, Denmark, (reelected); Albert Wagner, Germany, (reelected); Arie Zief, Israel, newly elected. Secretary-General: Yvonne Schnyder, Switzerland, (reelected).

The 22 EFP members. The toto organizations of Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey.

Notably absent, at least in the current year, are these great pools institutions: Littlewoods Pools, Vernons Pools, both from Great Britain; France's La Française des Jeux; Italy's Comitato Olimpico Nazionale Italiano; and Organismo Nacional de Loterías y Apuestas del Estado of Spain.

Press and results service. Available to all EFP members and provided, as in the past, by the EFP General Secretariat in Basel, Switzerland.