

Icelandic football success

Key factors – education, youth work and facilities



Facts and figures

- Population of Iceland July 1st 2016: **336.000**
(5th smallest of 55 UEFA countries)
- Registered players: **22.645** (6.8%)
 - Males: 15.419 (68%)
 - Females: 7.226 (32%)
- Number of clubs: 90
- Number of coaches: 600



Tournament Football

U6-U10	5v5
U12	7v7
U14-senior	11v11



Every tournament teams divided after ability
(A, B, C, D-teams)

Players divided into teams after ability

Tournament Football

Senior and U19

- Long pre-season – up to 7 months
 - Winter tournaments from January (inside – League Cup Feb-Apr)
 - Training camp abroad in April
- Short main football season – 5 months (mostly natural grass)
May 1th – 1st October



Tournament Football

Youth football (U12-U16)

- Two age-groups together
- June-August, Icelandic championship
- September-April, winter tournaments



Tournament Football

Grassroot football (U4-U10)

- Two age-groups together
- June-August - summer tournaments
- September-April, winter tournaments



Training

Start young

Age group	Training per week
4-6	1-2x
7-10	3-4
11-14	4
15-19	4-6
Senior	5-8

Additional training

We have physical education teachers teaching sports at school 2x per week (age 6-19)

All children must learn how to swim 1x per week (age 6-17)

Another sport – gymnastics, athletics, handball, football

Start early to differentiate

Facilities

Improved winter facilities

- 7 full size football halls
- 4 smaller football halls
- 20 football artificial pitches
- 130 mini pitches



Football became whole year sport around 2000

Equality

- All clubs are amateur (but men's top division semi pro)
- All coaches are paid and qualified
- Equally qualified coaches for both genders
- All clubs have trainings for both genders
- The same amount of training sessions for both genders
- The same fee for playing football for both gender
 - Around 60.000kr (almost 3.300 dkr) for 12 year old

Coach Education

- UEFA B license (140 hours)
 - 4x weekend courses
 - Coaching school
 - Written exam
- UEFA A license (200 hours)
 - 2x weekend courses
 - Coaching school
 - 7 days study visit
 - Practical group work
 - Written and practical exam.

70% of all active Icelandic coaches have UEFA B License

30% of all active Icelandic coaches have UEFA A License

The best players

Train/play with the age-group above

Girls train/play with the boys

National trainings

No academies

Cooperation with High Schools



National Program

- **U13**
 - Elite training 2x per season, Regional
 - Tournament weekend in September with 40-50 players
- **U14**
 - Elite training 2x per season, Regional
 - Tournament weekend in August with 40-50 players
- **U15**
 - 2 selections(November/January) Regional
 - Tournament weekend in August with 64 players

National Program

- **U16**

- 6 weekends during the winter
- UEFA friendly tournament (3 matches)
- Nordic Championship (4 matches)

- **U17**

- 6 weekends during the winter
- 1 weekend in July(middle of the season)
- European Qualification round (3 matches)
- Elite rounds (3 matches)

National Program

- **U19**

- 6 weekends during the winter
- 2 friendly games in September
- European Qualification round (3 matches)
- Elite round (3 matches)

- **U21**

- European Qualification
- 2-3 training weekends
- 1 friendly



Men's A- national team

First European Final Tournament for Iceland in France 2016

The team reached quarter-finals

FIFA World Ranking 23rd



Women's A- national team

Qualified to European Final Tournaments in Finland 2009 and Sweden 2013

FIFA World Ranking 16th

Aiming for Holland 2017



Hard working mentality



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