



90 Minutes for Hope

Questions & Answers

Q: When was the idea of a joint pan-European initiative by clubs first born?

A: The idea was launched by FC Porto at the beginning of September, who called on all clubs of the 2015/16 UEFA Champions League Group Stage to participate in the initiative.

Q: When did the European Club Association decide to support and extend the initiative?

A: FC Porto contacted ECA to seek support. At the occasion of the 15th ECA General Assembly on 8 September 2015, the ECA Executive Board discussed the matter and decided to extend the initiative to the UEFA Europa League Group Stage participants. The initiative was presented to all present member clubs.

Q: What did the initiative imply in practice?

A: Each club participating in the 2015/16 UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League Group Stage was invited to donate EUR 1 for each ticket sold during their first European home match. The match days concerned took place on 15-17 September (match day 1) and on 29 September-1 October 2015 (match day 2)

Q: Was it mandatory for the UCL/UEL clubs to participate?

A: No. The clubs' participation was voluntary. It must be noted that many European clubs had already initiated similar initiatives in support of the refugee crisis individually at local, regional and national level.

Q: What about the clubs that do not play in European competition this season? Could they participate?

A: Yes, every club could participate regardless whether it plays in European competition or not. Clubs that do not play in European competitions could, for example, apply the same concept to a domestic league or cup fixture.

Q: Which organisations will benefit from the clubs' donations?

A: At its meeting on 6 October 2015, the ECA Executive Board took the decision to donate the collected amount raised to organisations which are focusing their efforts on supporting refugee children. Refugee children are particularly vulnerable to abuse and exploitation and many of them are thought to be unaccompanied minors. The donations will benefit UNICEF and Save the Children, two organisations that have an excellent reputation and have proven to do great work across Europe both in countries where children are on the move and in countries of final destination. The fund will be split equally between the two organisations.