

Fan projects: long-term, sustainable activities

Work with fans conducted as part of social education is based on the recognition that repressive responses alone are insufficient in countering the violent behaviour of young football fans. Fan project work is orientated on the fans' own environment, i.e. it takes place in the stadium, on away game trips, at fan meetings and at fan tournaments.



To defuse the tendency to aggression and extremist attitudes, fan projects boost the creative fan culture, offering young fans a range of alternative leisure and educational activities. In this respect, the networking of fan projects with educational establishments and other stakeholders outside the world of football is especially important. In recent years, fan projects in Germany have achieved demonstrable success in numerous activities in the areas of anti-discrimination and the prevention of violence, through the organisation of tournaments, events and international exchange programmes.

Koordinationsstelle Fanprojekte

National Sport and Security Initiative

The National Sport and Security Initiative (German acronym: NKSS), launched in 1993, supplies a framework for fan project activities. Guidelines and standards for the work of fan projects were established by the NKSS Working Group. Its members were drawn from interior, sport and youth ministry conferences, the current Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, the German Football Association (DFB), the German Association of Cities and the German Sports Federation (now: DOSB).

The introduction of the NKSS brought structure to the previously disorganised area of fan support. It has two points of focus: fan support by clubs (regulated by Article 29 of the DFB guidelines for organising Bundesliga league games) and fan support as provided by fan projects run as part of social education work, following the statutory regulations for youth work. KOS was set up in 1993 to support and coordinate local fan project work.

Supporting association:



KOS is funded by the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and the German Football Association (DFB).



Bundesministerium
für Familie, Senioren, Frauen
und Jugend



DEUTSCHER
FUSSBALL-BUND

July 2011



Otto-Fleck-Schneise 12
60528 Frankfurt am Main
Germany
Tel.: +49 (0) 69 6700-357
Fax: +49 (0) 69 67730000
www.kos-fanprojekte.de
E-mail: kos.fanprojekte@dsj.de

The Fan Project Coordination Centre (KOS) was set up in 1993 to provide support to fan projects working in social education and to coordinate and participate in the establishment of additional projects. The basis for its work is supplied by the National Sport and Security Initiative (NKSS), which sets out the material and organisational framework for youth work in football. Currently, 51 fan scenes are supported at 46 locations in Germany.

As well as advising and supporting fan projects in Germany, KOS also provides information and advisory services in the area of professional pedagogic fan work to football organisations, the government, the police and the media. KOS is two-thirds financed by the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, with the remainder supplied by the German Football Association. It shares its head office with German Sports Youth (dsj) in Frankfurt and is staffed by four consultants and an administrative assistant.

Working with football fans: nationally and internationally

As a result of the many years of successful fan project work in Germany, the preventative approach to working with football fans taken by social educators has achieved growing recognition. As well as coordinating and improving national fan work, KOS has also been active internationally for many years, organising fan support activities at major football events in partnership with the Football Supporters Europe (FSE) network. The greatest challenge in this area was the planning and realisation of the fan and visitors program for the 2006 World Cup in Germany.



KOS: activities and services



Consultancy and quality assurance

- Advising organisations, public bodies and initiatives on the set-up and viability of fan projects
- Intervention and mediation services for conflicts arising from football
- Participation in national and international committees of UEFA, the EU, the Council of Europe, the German federal states and the German federal government (among others)
- Strengthening social and educational fan work by granting the “Fanprojekt nach dem NKSS” (“NKSS-based fan project”) quality seal



Coordination and networking

- Coordinating the exchange of information between fan projects and cooperating with national and international fan organisations
- Working together with the German Football Association (DFB) and the German Football League (DFL)
- Consultancy for policy makers at federal and state level.
- Collaborating with the Federal Working Group of Fan Projects (BAG)



Training and further education

- Conferences and workshops for fan project staff
- Seminars for opinion leaders working in youth, fan and club projects
- Organisation of and participation in conferences across Germany and Europe



Publishing and public relations work

- Issuing of in-house publications and brochures
- Documentation services for fan work, fan research, etc.
- Press and public relations work