

Interview guide

Does the mobility of footballers influence the success of the national team?

- *“Feet-Exchange”*

Opening questions

The opening questions is based on personal experience in the respective sport of the interview object, first of all this is an easy way of getting to know the participant, but this also builds a foundation to why this particularly person is chosen for the interview.

Question:

1. Did you have a career yourself in football?
2. If question 1. “Yes”, where and for how long? Did you have a career abroad?
3. If question 1. “No”, how did you enter or engage in Norwegian football ?

Introductory questions

The reason for this section is to ask the participants if he or she have any objection to the theories presented to them (“Feet-exchange” and the “Knowledge Spillover Model”)

1. How do you understanding of the concepts of “feet-exchange” and “knowledge spillover”?
Probe: Do you agree with the theory hence – Playing with quality players over time, does this enhance the possibility of learning new technical abilities, getting used to a higher paced game, and at last; does this raise the overall possibility of reaching your maximum potential?

Questions related to the upcoming key questions

After the opening questions, I intended to introduce the participant for the numbers related to the mobility of Norwegian players.

1. How do you feel about the amount of Norwegians footballers moving to play abroad?

Probe: A large amount of Norwegian player’s transfers to leagues ranked approximately on the same coefficients as the Norwegian Tippeligaen, what is your personal opinion on “quality” Norwegian players opting to play in nations such as Sweden and Danmark ahead of Tippeligaen?

Probe: How do you think this affects the overall standard of the Norwegian Tippeliga?

2. The Norwegian national team have not qualified for a championship playoff in 15 years, what do you feel is the main reason for missed playoffs?

3. Do you think that the standard of the players brought in to the Norwegian leagues is good enough enhance the performances of the indigenous players?
 - How do you feel the current level of the players playing “home” matches up against the European level?

Key questions

1. The Norwegian national team ranks at its lowest position since the start of the FIFA-ranking back in 93, what is your main concern with the lack of results?
2. NFF have in their action plan for 2012 - 2015 put up of different goals for the top football in Norway;
 - Develop high competence on all level within the top football that again will make us comparable with the best nations.
 - Together with NFF and the top football clubs in Norway, we aim to further develop and exchange world-class competence on **player development**, which again will secure both leaders, coaches and players the possibility of reaching their maximum potential.
 - Stated goals for the national team;
 - o 1st team men; Qualify for the World Cup playoff 2014 and European playoff in 2016, and ranking among the world's 25 top football nations on the FIFA-ranking
 - o Norway will at all-time have 15 to 20 players who regularly plays within the 10 best-ranked leagues in the world. ((1. Spain (Ødegaard division 3), 2. England (Hangeland, Ulvestad), 3. Germany (Skjelbred, Nordtveit, Abdelloue, Dælhi, Elyounoussi), 4. Italy, 5. Portugal, 6. France (Konradsen), 7. Russia, 8. Ukraine, 9. Netherlands (Henriksen), 10. Belgium))
 - Looking at NFFs action plan and the results put up by the Norwegian national team, how do you believe the lack of mobility for Norwegian footballers to Europe's top nations might have affected the national teams' results?
 - Is todays work with player development and the competence of leaders good enough for Norway to achieve the goals in the action plan within short time?

