Bučovice Blind Football Cup 2017

Final Report

From 17 to 18 June 2017, we organized an anniversary **5th edition** of the international blind football tournament – Bučovice Blind Football Cup 2017. There were seven blind football clubs from six European countries taking part: Five-a-side Anderlecht (Belgium), FC St. Pauli Hamburg, SF Blau-Gelb Marburg (both from Germany), Asamea Keravnos (Greece), Tyniecka NWP Kraków (Poland), MIK Sound (Sweden), the hosting team Avoy MU Brno (Czech Republic), and additionaly the oversea team, **Futbal Ciegos Cundinamarca** from Colombia.

We kept the system of the tournament from the last year, so there were again matches in two groups and then an exciting knock-out part. Spectators and participants of the event took headphones and listened to a **professional commentary** of all the matches, or followed **online statistics of the tournament**. We did not forget the fans of the blind football who were not able to participate in our tournament. We offered them a possibility to follow the **live video stream** of all the matches with audio description.

The players of **Five-a-side Anderlecht** raised the trophey for the first place. They were able to defend all the attacks of Colombian team and then beat them in penalties. We are in process of preparing all the details about the tournament.

The tournament's organizers: Avoy MU Brno, z. s.

The tournament's partners and sponsors: Avast foundation, Seznam.cz, Masarykov University, Světluška – Nadační fond Českého rozhlasu, Siemens, Southmoravian region, Penzion U Matulů, ZŠ Školní 710 in Bučovice, DM drugstore, The Football Association of the Czech Republic, Charta 77 foundation, SportObchod.cz, Lesensky.cz, Medical Vision, Delikomat

The final report contains:

- 1. Article on tournament (including results, goals, yellow/red cards)
- 2. Final standings of the teams
- 3. The best players of the tournament
- 4. The list of shooters
- 5. Participants' feedback
- 6. Media articles
- 7. Photographs and video
- 8. The list of partners and sponsors

1. Article on tournament

The fifth anniversary edition of the Bucovice Blind Football Cup was different in many ways from the previous tournaments. Firstly, it was joined for the first time by the **Colombian team Fútbal Ciegos Cundinamarca**, which tried hard for several years to be able to participate. While Cundinamarca appeared to be a clear front-runner it couldn't hold its initial dominant lead, unlike the Brazilian ICB Bahia team which won the first three BBFC editions. Also, what was exceptional about the fifth edition was the fact that all four final matches ended in penalties. Additionally, unlike previous editions, the golden cup was won by the team with the best defensive strength. And finally, this edition was also remarkable because of the weather which left a lot to be desired; Saturday was very cold and rainy while Sunday quite windy. The event was opened by dr. Martin Ander, the Deputy Mayor of the City of Brno. The young Kryštof Lesenský, the best striker of the primary school futsal league in Brno, who plays for Orel Řečkovice, performed the ceremonial kick-off.

Group A

It was no surprise that the Colombian team entered the semifinals. The team defeated all the opponents, receiving only one goal. The presence of their striker Jhon González Hernández proved crucial as he scored seven goals in three matches. The home team, Avoy MU Brno, and the Belgian Five-a-side Anderlecht scrambled for second place. Christoph Eilers was the only one to score in the thrilling Saturday match which, unfortunately for Avoy MU Brno, meant that Avoy's hopes of getting a medal ended.

Day, time	Teams	Score	Goals	Yellow/red cards
Saturday 9:00	F. C. Cundinamarca – Five-a-side Anderlecht	3:1 (2:0)	Cundinamarca: González 2, Pinilla; Anderlecht: Vanderborght	Cundinamarca: Pinilla (YC), Anderlecht: Wespes (YC)
Saturday 11:00	Avoy MU Brno – MIK Sound	4:0 (2:0)	Brno: Seal 2, Valer 2	
Saturday 13:00	F. C. Cundinamarca – MIK Sound	5:0 (4:0)	Cundinamarca: González 3, Zarate 2	
Saturday 15:00	Avoy MU Brno – Five-a-side Anderlecht	0:1 (0:1)	Anderlecht: Eilers	
Saturday 17:00	F. C. Cundinamarca – Avoy MU Brno	2:0 (1:0)	Cundinamarca: González 2	Brno: Seal (YC), Gottlieb (YC)
Sunday 9:00	Five-a-side Anderlecht – MIK Sound	4:0 (1:0)	Anderlecht: Eilers 2, Wespes, Vanderborght	

Overview of Group A matches

Group A table

#	Team	Wins	Draws	Losses	Score	Points
1.	F. C. Cundinamarca	3	0	0	10:1	9
2.	Five-a-side Anderlecht	2	0	1	6:3	6
3.	Avoy MU Brno	1	0	2	4:3	3
4.	MIK Sound	0	0	3	0:13	0

Group B

The development of events in Group B was intriguing till the last seconds. The Marburg players, last year's silver medallists, had little difficulties advancing to the knockout matches. Even though Taime Kuttig was not playing and another great striker Alican Pektas was kept on the substitute bench most of the time, the German team defeated their three opponents. Robert Warzecha, for many a relatively unknown player so far, stood out as an assertive striker. His goals in the first two matches his team played ensured Marburg's victory and enabled the team's advance to the semifinals. The Greek team from Athens, Asamea Keravnos, and the second German team, FC St. Pauli Hamburg, put up a fight for the last place to advance. Eventually, St. Pauli was able to advance thanks to higher score.

Overview of Group B matches

Day, time	Teams	Score	Goals	Yellow/red cards
Saturday 10:00	Asamea Keravnos – FC St. Pauli	1:1 (1:0)	Keravnos: Bezhani; St. Pauli: Narjes	
Saturday 12:00	SF BG Marburg – Tyniecka NWP Kraków	2:0 (1:0)	Marburg: Warzecha 2	
Saturday 14:00	Asamea Keravnos – Tyniecka NWP Kraków	2:1 (2:0)	Keravnos: Feimoglou, Beznani; Kraków: Jung	
Saturday 16:00	SF BG Marburg – FC St. Pauli	1:0 (0:0)	Marburg: Warzecha	
Saturday 18:00	Asamea Keravnos – SF BG Marburg	0:2 (0:1)	Marburg: Pektas 2	
Sunday 10:00	FC St. Pauli – Tyniecka NWP Kraków	2:0 (1:0)	St. Pauli: Narjes, Ruge	

Group B table

#	Team	Wins	Draws	Losses	Score	Points
1.	SF BG Marburg	3	0	0	5:0	9
2.	FC St. Pauli	1	1	1	3:2	4
3.	Asamea Keravnos	1	1	1	3:4	4
4.	Tyniecka NWP Kraków	0	0	3	1:6	0

Knockout matches

Never have there been so many evenly-matched matches that would end in penalty kicks at the Bucovice Cup. Both semi-final matches and the matches for the third and the first place ended in a draw at the end of playing time. The Colombian sharpshooter Jhon González Hernández didn't score a goal in the semi-finals as Sven Gronau from St. Pauli blocked his shot and he couldn't break through the excellent Belgian defence in the finals. Few would have probably bet on the Belgian victory yet the Belgians took the lead and were able to lift the golden cup above their heads in the 5th BBFC edition. The Czech team made a futile fight with the Greek player Adriano Bezhani who scored four goals, following hard on the Colombian Jhon González's heels as the best forward.

Overview of Knockout matches

Day, time	Teams	Score	Goals	Yellow/red cards
Sunday 11:00 1 st semifinal	Five-a-side Anderlecht – SF BG Marburg	2:1 p. (1:0, 1:1)	Anderlecht: Wespes, Salek; Marburg: Pektas	
Sunday 12:00 2 nd semifinal	F. C. Cundinamarca – FC St. Pauli	1:0 p. (0:0, 0:0)	Cundinamarca: Pinilla	
Sunday 13:00 for the 7 th place	MIK Sound – Tyniecka NWP Kraków	0:3 (0:2)	Kraków: Jung 2, Ryszka	
Sunday 14:00 for the 5 th place	Avoy MU Brno – Asamea Keravnos	1:4 (0:1)	Brno: Gottlieb; Keravnos: Bezhani 4	Brno: Seal (YC), Keravnos: Feimoglou (YC)
Sunday 15:00 for the 3 rd place	FC St. Pauli – SF BG Marburg	0:1 p.	Marburg: Pektas	
Sunday 16:00 final	F. C. Cundinamarca – Five-a-side Anderlecht	0:1 p. (0:0, 0:0)	Anderlecht: Salek	

2. Final standings of the teams

- 1. Five-a-side Anderlecht (Belgium)
- 2. F. C. Cundinamarca (Colombia)
- 3. SF BG Marburg (Germany)
- 4. FC St. Pauli (Germany)
- 5. Asamea Keravnos (Greece)
- 6. Avoy MU Brno (Czech republic)
- 7. Tyniecka NPW Kraków (Poland)
- 8. MIK Sound (Sweeden)

3. Vyhlášení nejlepší hráči

Best goalie: Sven Gronau (FC St. Pauli) Best defender: Keryn Seal (Avoy MU Brno) Best forward: Jhon Eider Gonzalez Hernandez (F. C. Cundinamarca) Fair-play award: Katja Löffler (Asamea Keravnos, FC St. Pauli)

4. The list of shooters

#	Player	Team	Goals
1.	Jhon Eider Gonzalez Hernandez	Futbal Ciegos Cundinamarca	7
2.	Adriano Bezhani	Asamea Keravnos	6
3.	Alican Pektas	SF BG Marburg	4
46.	Christoff Eilers	Brussels 5-a-side Anderlecht	3
4.–6.	Robert Warzecha	SF BG Marburg	3
4.–6.	Martin Jung	Tyniecka NWP Kraków	3
7.–14.	Saïd Salek	Brussels 5-a-side Anderlecht	2
7.–14.	Alexandre Wespes	Brussels 5-a-side Anderlecht	2

7.–14.	Keryn Seal	Avoy MU Brno	2
7.–14.	Luis Alfonzo Pinilla	Futbal Ciegos Cundinamarca	2
7.–14.	Juan Sebastian Zarate Arias	Futbal Ciegos Cundinamarca	2
7.–14.	Lukáš Valer	Avoy MU Brno	2
7.–14.	Rasmus Narjes	FC St. Pauli v. 1910 e.V.	2
7.–14.	Kevin Vanderborght	Brussels 5-a-side Anderlecht	2
15.–18.	Ondřej Gottlieb	Avoy MU Brno	1
15.–18.	Dimitrios Feimoglou	Asamea Keravnos	1
15.–18.	Marcin Ryszka	Tyniecka NWP Kraków	1
15.–18.	Paul Ruge	FC St. Pauli v. 1910 e.V.	1

5. Participants' feedback

Nicky Bardaxoglou (Five-a-side Anderlecht, Belgium): I have no words to thank you for the best tournament in Europe. Respect and congrats to you.

Asamea Keravnos (Greece): "On behalf of the greek team Asamea KERAVNOS, we would like to thank all the people involved in the organization of this exceptional tournament. Since we are a quite new and young team, it was our first international tournament. However almost all of us are also players in the Greek National Team... And we can definitely say that this tournament was better organized and more enjoyable than many (if not all) of the tournaments and championships organized even by IBSA (International Blind Sports Federation). Not only from an athletic point of view, but also as a holistic experience. We were all amazed by every small or big detail. The bottles with our names, the instructions for everything that were translated in our own language and also in Braille, the box full of fruit and chocolates every day in our dressing rooms, the referees, the speakers, the very qualitative online streaming, the pool, the food, the whole atmosphere, everything... And of course the organizers that lost their sleep and probably enjoyed nothing in order for us to find everything working perfectly and enjoy ourselves! Additionally, all the teams consisted of nice, happy and friendly people that made this whole tournament not only a sports event but also a meettogether event that you enjoyed participating not only as an athlete but also as a human being.

Everything was perfect. Especially for our young players it was like taking a child to Disneyland! And this is the most important... That you made these people so happy and you gave them an once-in-a-lifetime experience (until next bbfc!) that they will always remember and that will motivate them even more to play football... Once again we want to thank all the people involved in the organization of this magnificent tournament and especially the amazing Jitka and Buky who literally touched their limits so that we can enjoy everything from the first to the last second...

We really hope that this tournament will become an institution and will keep giving all these people (including us hopefully!) even more happiness and unforgettable experiences! And of course we hope that they will be able to find money easier and easier every year so that they can spend their time mainly on the organization of the tournament and not on fundraising activities... It is time for them to also enjoy the tournament and not only watch it afterwards in replay...

Once again thanks for everything... It was amazing... We hope to see you all again next year!

Jana Baštová (Primary School Bučovice Školní 710): Hello everybody ;-) I'm not sure why but whenever I look at the pitch, I feel nostalgic and I can't help looking forward to seeing you all again next year. I hope everything went well for you and everyone was happy. It's really impressive that you can organise such a huge event being so few. I know how many efforts and how much time it takes. Thank you for such a beautiful sports and personal experience and also for the wine!

Natacha Theys (Five-a-side Anderlecht, Belgium): Thanks a billion for this wonderful tournament! Tomáš and Jitka, you made again a extraordinary job! Mockrát děkuji to all the team of Avoy MU Brno! I'm back home (since monday) and my head is still full of dreams and unforgettable memories. BBFC is the only place I know where I feel so many beautiful emotions at once and where I also feel

surrounded by the spirit of blindfootball: generousity, friendship, fairplay, happiness, laughs, passion, joy, sharing experiences and so much more... It's a magic adventure, with lovely people!

Thanks to all my teammates, to all the other teams: players, keepers, coaches and guides, to all the volunteers, the commentators, the photographers, the great referees, the organisers, ... you made it fabulous ! I already miss all of you!

Mark Blake (**MIK Sound, Sweden**): GREAT JOB also to the whole team for a perfect organization. On behalf of Mälarhöjdens IK (MIK) Sound we'd like to thank you all for a fun and extraordinarily rich learning experience. Not only was this our first tournament, these four games are the first full games we've ever played :-)

You're always welcome to visit Stockholm (our pitch is just 10km from the city centre) and we look forward to meeting up again to further develop - together - the magical world of 5-a-side. *Tack* and game on!

Michael Piecq (referee, Belgium): Our referee team is back home. BBFC is an amazing tournament, where sparkles of magic come to life. Don't tell your dreams, let them feel._

Keryn Seal (former captain of England national squad): This year I had the honour of attending my 2^{nd} ever BBFC. I was sad that my England contract stopped me from attending the first 3 editions. But edition 4 in 2016 was my first experience of this wonderful tournament, when I represented Worcester with several of my England team mates. We were happy to win this tournament. But even more happy to be part of this football event with a festival atmosphere.

This year I was honoured to be invited to play with the Avoy MU Brno team in the 5th edition of BBFC. This was a new and exciting experience for me that I had been looking forward to for over half a year. Being part of a Czech club in a tournament held in Czech Republic was an experience unlike anything I had found in all my years of sport. To find myself in this situation I felt very happy and honoured to be part of this club.

We went in to the tournament with dreams of possibly winning or being in the final. As it came to be, we did neither of these and eventually finished 6th. But some of the team performances and support from the home crowd left me with huge feelings of pride and warmth that will last longer than a winners medal ever would.

I have known Jitka Graclikova for over 8 years now. She impressed me at the start, and continues to impress me with her passion and attention to detail. But the team she has built around the organisation for this tournament is equally impressive. The hard work, dedication, passion, and warmth shown by every member of this organising and volunteer team is nothing short of breathtaking. It speaks volumes for the sport of blind football, the BBFC event, and Jitka herself, that these people want to give their time and expertise to this tournament every year.

There seems to be a new innovation or little touch that is put in place to make each BBFC a little different. I can't wait to see what they do for 2018 already. In conclusion this tournament was a fantastic experience for me both on and off the pitch. Too many times in my career I have regretted not socialising with the opposition. In this tournament I can say that was not a regret. I shared some great experiences with players and coaches from all over Europe and South America. And I also became very close to my Avoy team mates indeed. I look forward to 2018!

Five-a-side Anderlecht, Belgium: Infinite thanks to Tomáš Bukovský and Jitka Graclíková for organising this wonderful tournament. A competition full of joy, passion and emotion... there is simply no other place in the world where one can enjoy blind football as much as in the BBFC. Shoutouts to all the volunteers, referees, photographers, guides, players, teams... just to anyone involved, for the incredible job you all did!

Maurizio Valgolio (commentator, Hannover, Germany): Big Thanks for this extraordinary weekend to all of you!

Tomáš Ergens (spectator): I wanted to tell you it was an amazing experience. A total explosion of emotions and such thrill!!! The event was brilliantly organized and it went so smoothly... well, I was thrilled to bits. I'm keeping my fingers crossed and good luck with everything :)

Aleexis Richir (Five-a-side Anderlecht, Belgium): Hello Jitka, I would like to thank you for this extraordinary job and warm welcome, as each year we arrive in Bučovice. This tournament is truly the most beautiful all around the world and we are so happy to be its winners. I wish the best to you and the whole club from Brno because you deserve it. Hope to see you next year.

Tyniecka Krakow, Poland: We would like to thank so much to team Avoy MU Brno, Jitka, Tomáš and each one person who made last weekend in Bučovice become two great blind football days. We think

that BBFC should change name to Bučovice Champions League. It was great privilege and fantastic feeling to be a part of fifth edition of this cup! We would like to congratulate to all teams which took part in tournament. It's always good to play with best and learn from best. Hope to se all of you soon and have a chance to play and enjoy blind football!

Christoff Eillers (Five-a-side Anderlecht, Belgium): Again big big thanks for such a tournament because we go to quite a few tournaments and especially myself, I went to many tournaments and BBFC still keeps the best of the best in terms of atmosphere, organization, everything! We know that even if we would end last we would still enjoy very much BBFC. Am soo sooo sooo happy that you said for the first time ever that you are doing it next year!

Peter Goessmann (Blista Marburg, Germany): Dear Jitka, thank you very much for this unforgettable days, you are always welcome in Marburg and in our hearts. Greetings from all of us.

François Carcouët (referee, France): It was a real pleasure to come. This tournament represents the spirit of blind football and I thank you for that, even if I think that the referees are not the most important persons.

Kevin Vanderboght (Five-a-side Anderlecht, Belgium): Thanks to Jitka Graclíková, Tomáš Bukovský and my club from Anderlecht to let me realize my dream to participate in one of the most beautiful tournaments all over the world.

Zdeněk Rybák (ex Avoy MU Brno player): I would like to congratulate you on Bucovice – focusing more on the course of the event rather than on your placement :-) I was watching the live streaming and I have to compliment the commentators, and particularly the British bloke, on their job. Thanks to their exciting/excited comments I even felt tempted to play myself – and nobody else has ever done it yet. Please give them my best regards.

Paddy Haynes (goalie, MIK Sound, Sweden): Amazing weekend and another excellent tournament, that Jitka, Tomáš and the amazing team of Avoy Brno.

Gabriel Mayr (coach, Brazil): I can't stop smiling in here, looking at the BBFC photos, it is incredible, I wish I was there. I want to get more involved ASAP!

Adriano Bezhani (Asamea Keravnos, Greece): Jitka, Thank you very much for all that we lived in the four-days and for the hospitality! All those days were the wonderful ones!

Michael Hain (FC St. Pauli Hamburg, Germany): Congratulations again for a fantastic tournament with all the beautiful details made out of love! Amazing. Already looking forward for the next one!

Luis Antonio Castañeda Tenjo (Fútbal Ciegos Cundinamarca, Colombia): When we arrived at the Prague airport, a new story for the Colombian football began; we were the first team to ever come to the old continent. We were met by a fellow countryman and a Czech representative. We soon got to the hotel in Bucovice, which was really cosy.

The next day in the morning, we finally got to meet Jitka, the person who has always believed in us and never hesitated to give us a friendly helping hand. It was amazing. Also, it was very important that we could get to know the local environment and atmosphere before the tournament began. It was great to do a training session right on the pitch where we were about to play for the first time in Europe.

It was impressive to see all the teams from different European countries gathered on the pitch the first day of the tournament. It was just as great to meet the referees that we had seen live online and to witness the logistics and all the huge efforts that enabled the organization of this international event. There were Latin American people watching the streaming regardless of the different time zone.

We hugely appreciated the portable water kit. It was so easy and practical to carry around. Many players suggested that the fact that the bottles read their names in braille is inclusion and exclusivity at the same time.

It was an honor for us to open the tournament and our semi-final match with the German team was an extraordinary experience. Both teams proved their qualities in the final match. Although we unfortunately lost on penalties, the final ceremony was superb and the medals and the trophy labeled in braille beautiful. Our final evening in the local wine bar restaurant was very pleasant.

Many Colombians and Latin Americans were wowed by the live broadcast. The sound and video quality were very good. We also received many nice messages on YouTube.

7. Photographs

Documentary about the tournament: <u>Bučovice Blind Football Cup 2017</u> (duration 4:25, video footage and editing: Jaroslav Beneš)

Photo galleries with text descriptions, the pictures were taken by: <u>Stefan Groenveld</u> <u>Silvie Hrbáčková</u> <u>Michal Jašek</u>



Avoy MU Brno during Opening ceremony



Jhon González, the tournament's best forward



Dave Mycock, our great supporter from the very beginning



Keryn Seal, the tournament's best defender, against MIK Sound



Sven Gronau, the tournament's best goal keeper



Kevin Vanderboght against Paddy Haynes



A coin toss before the match of Krakow and Marburg



Two defenders, Rasmus Narjes (St. Pauli) and Dimitrios Feimoglou (A. Keravnos)



Both German teams celebration



Matula family, the best catering around the world



Saïd Salek and the deciding penalty of the final match



Enormous joy of Saïd and the goalie Adrien Bonaert



The closing ceremony and Jitka Graclíková



The winning team - Five-a-side Anderlecht

8. The list of partners and sponsors

- Nadační fond Avast (financial support)
- Seznam.cz (media support)
- Masarykova univerzita (material and another support)
- Světluška Nadační fond Českého rozhlasu (financial support)
- Siemens (financial support)
- Jihomoravský kraj (financial support)
- Penzion U Matulů (catering during the tournament)
- ZŠ Školní 710 v Bučovicích (provision of the pitch and its surrounding facilities)
- Drogerie dm (financial support)
- Fotbalová asociace ČR (financial support)
- Nadace Charty 77 Konto Bariéry (financial support)
- SportObchod.cz (financial and media support)
- Lesensky.cz (media support)
- Medical Vision (financial and material support)
- Delikomat (financial support)