

02.06.2013 SG Dynamo Dresden – FC United of Manchester



Welcome to Dresden...

... on behalf of all Dynamo supporters. As the match SG* Dynamo Dresden vs. FC United of Manchester is not about scores but solely about a great experience: our "Fantag" (supporter's day) we are more than happy to welcome you here in our stadium. Your team will not face Dynamo's tier-2-team but those men who fought their way into the "2. Bundesliga" back in 2002 and 2004. Albeit many of our former players have become more mature they are still deemed advancement heroes by Dynamo supporters. The match is part of an extensive programme organized by us supporters. Of course you are invited to participate in all activities on this day.

* SG is an abbreviation for "Sportgemeinschaft" which roughly translates to "sports community".

Dynamo Dresden - between triumph and tears

The cause of our supporter's day and the match against FC United of Manchester is the 60th anniversary of our SG Dynamo which we are celebrating this year. Of course our supporters had a party already before the upcoming supporter's day. In the night of 12 April 2013 (Dynamo was founded on 12 April 1953) the Old City of Dresden was illuminated by countless flares. Additionally there was a huge choreography before the match against Energie Cottbus a few days later.



Sadly the successful days of our SG Dynamo have passed long ago. Eight GDR championships, seven FDGB* Cup wins and 98 international matches are written down in the letterhead. After the Fall of the Wall things went downhill. Due to financial problems and relegations down to tier 4 the club got into difficulties. However, during the meeting of members in November 2012 we could draw an entirely positive conclusion both economical and sporting. The club finished the business year 2011/12 at a profit of 634,000€ (533,900£) and therefore managed to finish with a surplus the second time in succession. This enabled Dynamo to considerably

lower the level of debt. Nevertheless the situation remains tense because of immense past burdens. Membership has increased to almost 14,000. The development of our team has affected the club positively as well. Now we are not to cease at this point which means to further support economical consolidation and to secure the club's future in the "2. Bundesliga". Since March 2011 the position of the sporting director (which has been vacant for a long time) is occupied by Steffen Menze. Former trainer Ralf Loose and his team achieved the long-desired promotion to the "2. Bundesliga" in 2011. Last season our team played quite successfully as it managed to avoid relegation and remained in league 2 before the last day. During summer break the team was significantly changed: twelve players left the club including the most successful striker, Zlatko Dedic. On the other hand ten new players came to Dresden. As expected Dynamo was struggling to avoid relegation since the beginning of the season. Unfortunately Ralf Loose was suspended in December 2012 and replaced by Peter Pacult who already trained Dynamo's team in 2005 and 2006. Back then he was not able to prevent relegation to the "Regionalliga" (Regional League, the tier-3-league in those days – nowadays even tier 4 as a third "professional" league was introduced in 2008) and we can only hope it will work out this time. Replacing Loose with Pacult was not without controversy: apart from his inglorious leave in 2006 his afterward engagement with the Red Bull club in Leipzig has become quite a burden. Our team proved its capability of playing football in the last few matches. Sadly its efforts remained to often without reward. In order to remain in league 2 three new players were hired after winter break. However, Dynamo still holds the 16th position after the season's regular ending. Only the clubs on position 17 and 18 are directly relegated, Dynamo can still avoid relegation by winning the "relegation play-offs" against the club holding the 3rd position in the 3rd division (VfL Osnabrück). These matches could get quite emotional and "explosive" as Dynamo achieved promotion to the 2. Bundesliga in 2011 by winning the play-offs against VfL Osnabrück (who were relegated to the 3rd division subsequently). The "relegation play-offs" are taking place on 24 May and 28 May – it could happen that Dynamo is relegated to the 3rd division a few days before the supporter's day. Of course we assume that this will not happen and we can celebrate the club's anniversary as well as staying in the 2. Bundesliga.

* FDGB is an abbreviation of "Freier Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund" which translates to "Free German Trade Union Federation". The FDGB Cup was the GDR's national cup.

Dynamo and FC United of Manchester

Contact between Dynamo and FC United of Manchester was first established in January 2012 at the supporter's congress in Berlin which was organized and hosted by the German supporter's campaign "Pro Fans". After a seminar by Antonia Hagemann (Supporters Direct) about the situation of English football supporters a first conversation was held. At first it was a non-binding request for a friendly match. Several agreements later SGD officials gave their consent and a contract was signed in August 2012. In August 2012 and again in March 2013 a FC United supporter visited Dresden to get in touch with local supporters. Multiple activities are planned around match day.

The FC United of Manchester has a special reputation in Europe and all over the world as well as a unique history. The principle "one member – one vote" proves that democratic structures are possible for a football club. After the fall of the Berlin Wall and German reunification Dynamo Dresden was afflicted several times by mismanagement until 2001. Shady managers and choleric presidents pushed Dynamo to the brink of the abyss. In 1995 Dynamo lost its license. The relegation from the 1. Bundesliga was at the same time a relegation to non-professional football. In 2000 we missed qualification for the newly introduced "Regionalliga" (regional league) and were relegated to tier 4. During this period supporters and members became the club's most important foothold. With modesty and little money we managed to return to professional football between 2002 and 2004 which was quite sensational and absolutely unexpected. After the club was facing bankruptcy again in 2008 because it aimed to get promoted to the 2. Bundesliga and spent more money than it actually earned it had to raise a loan from the city of Dresden. In order to achieve this we had to change our Rules, granting the city's officials more influence on the selection of the management and budget planning. Therefore the club lost its independence. Almost all rights (marketing, catering, stadium, television) have been fully or partly ceded to third parties. The club itself only possesses the rights to transfer its players. At this stage the contracts for the new stadium were made. The club had a disadvantage because it was not taken seriously due to its mismanagement. In the end long-term contracts about marketing and stadium usage were signed without granting the club sufficient stakes. This is why Dynamo has to pay a high and – compared to other clubs – disadvantageous rent each year. The club's creative freedom is severely limited. In 2015 Dynamo has to redeem a high loan to film dealer Michael Kölmel who possesses the stadium in Leipzig. Around the year 2000 he gave much money to the club and was granted an interest in the annual television revenues in return. However, the money was thrown down the drain – without any sporting success – and the club was relegated to tier 4.

Because the club's members often rave about "the good old days" and many supporters want to compete in the 1. Bundesliga or even European cups people are still willing to "buy" sporting success. Some of them even wish for a rich sheikh or oil billionaire to fulfil these dreams with his financial power. By inviting the FC United of Manchester – as a positive and a warning example at the same time – we aim to demonstrate what might happen when supporters are alienated from their club or rather are degraded to costumers, when everything that matters is their money but not their wishes and interests and especially when the club's sovereignty is endangered or completely lost. The FC United of Manchester stands for everything that is important in football: friendship, companionship, modesty, passion and willingness to support one's club. For who is the club? You and me, we are the club. This motto should be and has to be Dynamo's in the future. Our club is quite popular and attracts many supporters and sympathisers. Hence there is a big risk that there are people who want to take advantage of the club with possibly negative consequences in the long run. With the match between FC United of Manchester and Dynamo's "promotion heroes" we want to point out that we had our greatest successes and best club life back in those days when we did not rely on megalomania but on modesty.



FC United vs. Dynamo - matchday program

The stadium's entrances are opened at 10:00 o'clock – but for much more than just football. The supporter's day – which is integrated into the celebration events around Dynamo's 60th anniversary – is centred around the 90 minutes friendly match between Dynamo's "promotion heroes" and FC United of Manchester. Kick-off is at 15:00 o'clock.

Dynamo's "promotion heroes": Oliver Herber, Torsten Bittermann, Levente Csik, Thomas Neubert, Denis Koslov, René Beuchel, Lars Heller, Dexter Langen, Steffen Heidrich, Daniel Petrowsky, Frank Paulus, Ronny Scholze, Lars Jungnickel, Heiko Bandulewitz, Christian Fröhlich.

There will also be a reunion with the successful coaching duo of this era, Sven Köhler and Christoph Franke.

However, before this special match's kick-off there will be more football in the forenoon. A supporter's tournament will be held at the stadium's artificial turf pitch. The final of this "Dynamo championship" will take place at the sacred stadium's pitch itself.

There will be multiple programme items and interesting offers on supporter's day. The stadium's entrances are opened at 10:00 o'clock. Behind sector K a "fan mile" will be waiting to be discovered. The area in front of the old scoreboard will offer any visitor much information about Dynamo's supporter's initiatives and groups, thus enabling him to learn more about the supporter's diverse and positive activities and to get in touch with them. An entertaining stage program consisting of live acts and rounds of discussions will let you see into Dynamo's community. The stadium itself will also be full of surprises. In the main building there will be an exhibition of black-white-yellow photography as well as the possibility to explore the "home" of our football players and to take a "walk of senses". Let yourself be surprised about what this might be. Our supporter's pub "Kulti" does not just offer beer and our club's history on the walls but also a Dynamo cinema. We would like to party with you after the match which is why we invite you to come to the area behind sector K again. There we want to enjoy the rest of the evening with some fine drinks and music. In consultation with United's team management we hope to welcome your team as well.



RUDOLF-HARBIG-STADION

Notes

The stadium's gastronomic service offers bratwurst, rissoles ("Frikadelle" in German) and kielbasa ("Krakauer") as well as the usual beverages beer, coke, lemonade and water.

Ticket pricing is 6€ per person. There will be no separation of supporters inside the stadium, thus enabling you to take a closer look at Dresden's supporters and their culture and letting you choose any seat or stand to attend the match. You could order tickets via our online portal (http://www.etix.com/ticket/online/venueSearch.jsp?venue_id=1814&cobrand=dynamodresden) but we recommend buying them in Dresden. You can purchase tickets on Sunday at the stadium, there will be a separate ticket office for guest supporters. If the match should be sold out (which we do not expect) more than enough tickets will be reserved for you.

Statistics

Season 2012/2013 (2. Bundesliga) – as of day 34
34 matches (9W – 10D – 15L), 35:49 goals, 37 points
Home: 17 matches (8W – 3D – 6L), 21:22 goals
Attending supporters (average): 24.964



Initiatives by Dynamo supporters

Fangemeinschaft Dynamo (Supporters Community Dynamo) was founded in May 2007 by and for Dynamo supporters. Their self-defined purpose is to represent and assert the interests of all supporters. In particular it aims to preserve the traditional culture of Dynamo supporters, to organize multiple activities and to promote a community of mutual respect that remains free of violence and racism. This includes advice for hopefully numerous guest supporters in order to make their stay in our stadium smooth and enjoyable.



"Ultras Dynamo" are one of the most well-known SG Dynamo Dresden supporters clubs. Without exaggerating they can claim to have changed the structure of Dresden's supporters culture unlike any other group. Ultras Dynamo want to improve the optical and acoustical support of SG Dynamo Dresden, promote self-administration of football supporters and preserve the lively culture of supporting Dynamo Dresden.

When **1953international** was founded one of their main purposes was to point out that racism and xenophobia are severe problems. As SG Dynamo Dresden picked up this message this purpose was achieved and the next step is not to cease at this point. With multiple activities it aims to drive out racism and other xenophobia from our stadium. By giving advice 1953International is glad to help Dynamo itself as well as any other supporters or supporters clubs.



Sports in general but in particular the matches of SG Dynamo Dresden affect many people in Dresden. They are highlights for old and young, men and women, rich and poor. But not all children and teenagers can afford a match ticket. About 35% of Dresden pupils are part of families with low income. They are often excluded and have multiple problems.

"Dynamo für alle Kinder" (Dynamo for All Children) is a charity organization which aims to make attending a match possible for children (age 6 to 18) from low income families

and thus enabling them to participate in an important part of Dresden. This offer (which is available for all matches taking place in Dresden) is financed by donations and membership fees. SG Dynamo itself supports this organization by providing price reduced tickets for the family sector. "Dynamo für alle Kinder" grants those tickets free of charge to all children.

"Zukunft Dynamo" (Future Dynamo) was founded on 31st July 2001 by committed Dynamo supporters and supporters clubs (Die Treuen Löwen [The Loyal Lions], Freital on Tour, Elbflorenz [Florence of the Elbe], Eastside) and has eventually become a registered charity. Its purpose is to exclusively support Dynamo's youth teams by all available means.



Journey

Of course you can use public transport on your way to the match. The tram stop "Großer Garten" (lines 10 or 13) is next to the stadium, alternatively you might want to use lines 9 or 11 to "Lennéplatz" and take a very short walk to the stadium.

By car from the North

- leave A13 (Berlin-Dresden) at slip road "Dresden-Hellerau"
- follow "Radeburger Straße" (later "Hansastraße") to the city centre until you reach the railway station "Dresden-Neustadt" (about 4 miles)
- turn left at "Schlesischer Platz" in "Antonstraße" and cross the bridge "Marienbrücke"
- follow the road along "Könneritzstraße" and "Ammonstraße"
- pass the central station and keep following "Wiener Straße"
- after a few hundred yards turn left in "Gellertstraße"
- cross intersection "Parkstraße" straight in "Lennéstraße"
- the stadium is to your left

By car from the West

- leave A4 (Eisenach-Görlitz) at slip road "Dresden-Altstadt"
- follow the road to the city centre for about 3 miles
- after railway crossing turn right from "Schäferstraße" in "Könneritzstraße"
- follow the road along "Könneritzstraße" and "Ammonstraße"
- pass the central station and keep following "Wiener Straße"
- after a few hundred yards turn left in "Gellertstraße"
- cross intersection "Parkstraße" straight in "Lennéstraße"
- the stadium is to your left

Important notice about the match day

There are limited parking lots at the stadium, all of them require a parking permission. Parking is available (with reasonable walking distance) for example at "Strehleener Straße". Alternatively you can make use of the car park at the central station ("Wiener Platz"). The way from the central station to the stadium is described below in the "By train" section.

We recommend using the public transport system for your journey. There are multiple park-and-ride schemes all over the town. We recommend the park-and-ride facilities in Kaditz (near the "Elbepark") or Prohlis as you can board tram lines there which will take you directly to the stadium.

From Prohlis tram lines 9 and 13 (both to "Kaditz" or "Mickten") will take you to the stadium. From Kaditz you will get to the stadium using the same lines (both to "Prohlis"). You have to leave line 9 at tram stop "Lennéplatz" and line 13 at "Großer Garten" directly in front of the stadium (see appended map). The ticket for the match will be a valid ticket for all bus and tram lines from four hours before the match starts to six hours after the final whistle. Tickets that were purchased online are personalised.



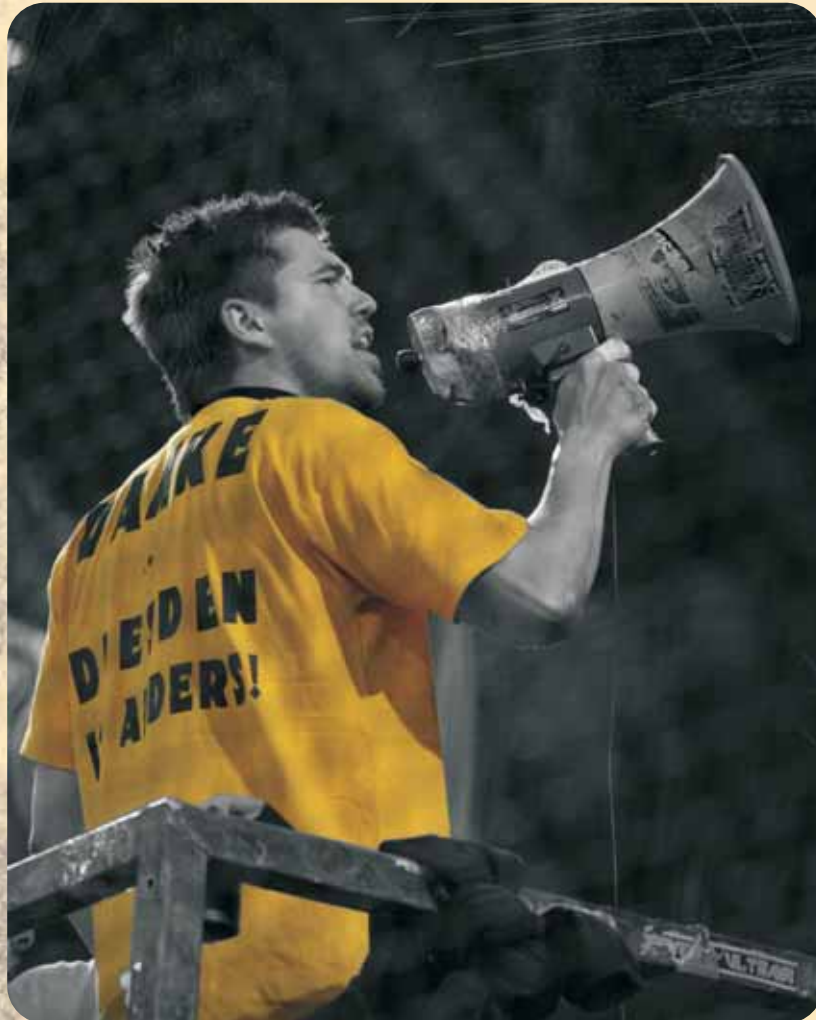
By train

From the central station (tram stop "Hauptbahnhof"), take tram line 10 to "Striesen" or "Fetscherplatz" and exit at tram stop "Lennéplatz". Lines 9 (to "Prohlis") and 11 (to "Zschertnitz") can be boarded at tram stop "Hauptbahnhof Nord", they will take you to "Lennéplatz" as well.

What to do on Saturday or after the match...

As you have made a long trip to the capital of Saxony you should do some sight-seeing. The city at the Elbe river offers a vast variety of interesting sites. A walk through the "Altstadt" (Old Town) with world-famous sights like the "Zwinger", the "Semperoper" or the "Frauenkirche" is a must for every visitor of Dresden. Those who like it loud will find more than one club in Dresden's trendy neighbourhood "Neustadt" (New Town) which will be also a great opportunity to convince yourselves of the performance of Saxony's breweries.

We recommend the following pubs in the city centre and the Neustadt:



city centre:

Shamrock Irish Pub
<http://www.shamrock-dresden.de/>
Kleine Brüdergasse 1
01067 Dresden
Telefon: +49 (0) 351 / 486 59 35

"The Dubliner" Irish Pub
<http://www.the-dubliner-dresden.de>
Gewandhausstr. 7
01067 Dresden
Tel. +49 351 484 27 40

Steiger am Landhaus
<http://www.steiger-dresden.de/>
Wilsdruffer Strasse 4-6
01067 Dresden
Telefon: +49 351 482897-0

neighbourhood "Neustadt":

Irish Fiddler
<http://www.irish-fiddler-dresden.de>
Louisenstr. 56
01099 Dresden
Tel. +49 351 895 11 08

Jim Beams Bar
<http://www.jimbeamsbar.de/>
Alaunstraße 57
1099 Dresden
Tel. +49 351 804 20 00

However, you should avoid the "Straßburger Platz" (about 820 yards north of the stadium at the end of "Lennéstraße") to prevent unnecessary problems as many Dresden supporters will meet here before and after the match.

Outside of the stadium (and especially in the evening) you should behave inconspicuously (no scarf or jersey). We do not expect something to happen if you wear your colors; however, we cannot guarantee nothing will actually happen as there are always (few) individuals looking for confrontation. Simultaneously you should enjoy your stay as a single person or in small groups as large groups are likely to attract someone's attention (people looking for confrontation as well as the police).



About Dresden

Dresden gave me great pleasure and revived my joy in thinking of arts. There are magnificent treasures of all kinds at this beautiful place" famous Johann Wolfgang von Goethe said in 1794 after he visited Dresden.

The first documentary evidence of our city's existence appeared in 1206. Dresden evolved from a Slavic village populated by fishermen to a settlement of merchants and castle of territorial lords and in the 15th century became the residence of Saxon dukes, prince-electors and later kings. Just like our SG Dynamo the city of Dresden saw days both glorious and tragic. While being a centre of European politics, culture and economy especially in the 18th century the name became a synonym for apocalyptic destruction just two centuries later. Since the reunification of Germany in 1990 the face of Dresden has changed due to extensive building activities. Dresden has become one of the most attractive German cities again. And just like our SGD the city still is a unique place with an impulsive past for both Dresden inhabitants, visitors and friends.

You can find much more information about Dresden at <http://www.dresden.de/en/02/history.php>



Park+Ride zum Stadion

