

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE ROAD CONTINUES

he success in the first season of the Barça Foundation team has fully confirmed that the idea that prompted us to create it was entirely correct. And I'm not just referring to sporting success, to this three wins out of three in LaLiga Genuine, the DICUP Tournament and The Original Challenge, which our players achieved so brilliantly. This team's main achievement has undoubtedly been the improvement in the lives of the 24 people with intellectual disabilities who make it up.

Sport is an unbeatable tool for integration and the reason Barça is more than a Club, among other things, because it has always assumed its social responsibility. When I took on the presidency again, I knew very well that we had to take a step forward in this regard. And that i why, at the initiative of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion department, and with the fullest involvement of the Foundation and the Masia, the Barça Foundation team started out in the summer of 2021.

This transversality of this project makes me feel particularly proud, because it demonstrates the ability of all areas of the Club to work together and its commitment to the idea that all people are equal, have the same rights and can do what we set our minds to. Of course, after this first year of the Barça Foundation team, its players have also filled me with pride. For their effort, for their ability

to learn, for the enthusiasm they have put into it. They are champions above all because of this.

This year, in the second season of the Barça Foundation team, it will be up to them to continue on the path that they began so brilliantly last year. And they will continue to take steps towards integration, with new colleagues, under the premise that they are competing to win but, above all, to continue growing as people.

Long live the Barça Foundation team!





THE MAIN SUCCESS OF THIS TEAM HAS
BEEN THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE LIVES
OF THE 24 PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES WHO MAKE IT UP

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LETTER FROM THE FOUNDATION'S GENERAL MANAGER

A TRANSVERSAL LOOK AT DIVERSITY

e face the Barça Foundation team's second season with a huge smile, because of what we experienced in the first year from this highly emblematic team. We all learned a lot. The players, of course, but also the coaching staff and the rest of the people who are part of the project. Victories in all the competitions helped make the path smoother, but winning is not the Barça Foundation's only goal. Nor is it the most important thing.

In this second year we want, above all, to continue developing the beautiful task of promoting the social inclusion of people with disabilities through sport. In this specific case, we are dealing with a group that has gone from 24 to 27 young men and women with intellectual disabilities. Football and the Barça shirt will continue to motivate them and the coaching staff will be called on to continue their work on training them through values. They will once again travel, live together and share the experience. They will strive to win again, but maybe this season they will also have to learn how to lose. The challenge, in any case, will be to continue growing and converting diversity into something wholly normal, discovering and enhancing everyone's abilities through this magical tool that is sport.

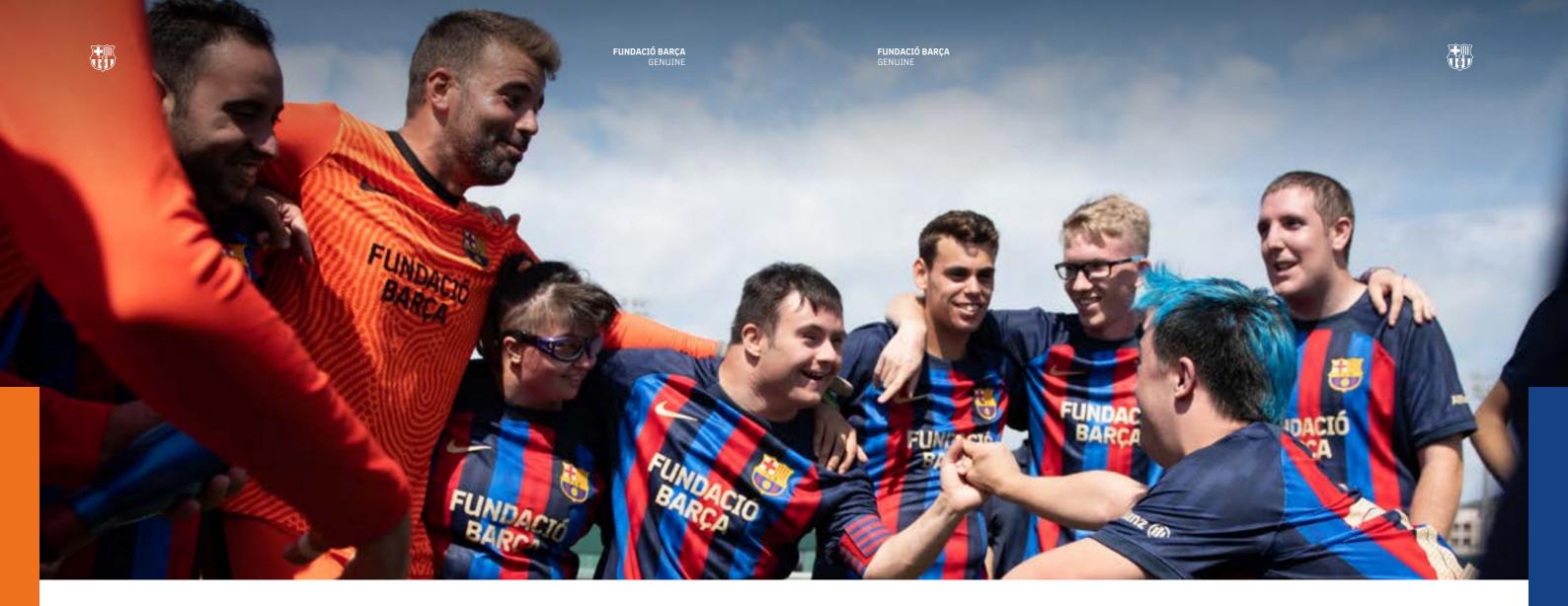
We will achieve this together. The team, of course, will above all be just that: a team. This is guaranteed by the work of Sergi Mascarell, Josep Ferré, Emili Gómez, Tina Gonzalez and Beth Puigdesens, with memories of the much-loved Franchu. They will be joined by psychologist Nagore Ferrero and the team of goalkeeper coaches led by Jesús Unzué. Alongside them, providing support for whatever they need, will be the FC Barcelona Foundation and the Club, working transversally with the Department of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion as the main promoter of the project.

May this smile continue! Long live the Barça Foundation team!





WE WANT TO CONTINUE DEVELOPING
THE BEAUTIFUL TASK OF PROMOTING
THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH SPORT



IT'S TIME TO ENJOY THE SECOND YEAR

After a first year full of positive experiences, the Barça Foundation team continues to move forward, filled with enthusiasm

FC Barcelona and the FC Barcelona Foundation last season committed to the creation of a football team made up of men and women with intellectual disabilities, and devoted all the resources necessary for its smooth operation. The initiative started from the Club's Department of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, but La Masia and the Foundation itself also got involved. This is how the Barça Foundation team was born.

The raison d'être of this project is the social integration and training in values of the men and women who make up the Barça Foundation team. In this regard, the success of the first season was resounding, because the personal evolution they experienced is a positive force, in some cases a very visible one. It has become clear that sport, football in this case, and the Barça shirt are unbeatable tools for inclusion.

In terms of sport, their success was absolute. The Barça Foundation team did not lose a single official match and won all three titles it competed for. Especially important was LaLiga Genuine Santander, in the Compañerismo group. In this competition, which brings together LaLiga clubs and aims to make progress towards the integration and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities, goals are valued, but crucially, so are sportsmanship, fair play, teamwork, respect and improvement. Indeed, the Barça Foundation team's victory was based on its fair play points, which allowed the team

to break its tie with Sevilla CF, which had also won all its matches.

The other two titles won by the men and women of the Barça Foundation team are the DI-CUP tournament, which was played in June at the Ciutat Esportiva Joan Gamper and in which seven other Catalan teams also participated, and The Original Challenge, a triangular tournament with Nàstic Genuine and Orlando City that took place in the monumental setting of the Daytona International Speedway, in Florida (USA) in July, which, for the first time, hosted inclusive teams from Europe and the Americas.

In addition to the transatlantic trip to Daytona, in its first season the Barça Foundation team travelled to Tarragona, Las Palmas, Malaga and Bilbao to play LaLiga Genuine Santander. All in all, it was a magnificent adventure for the 24 men and women who comprise it, and it will continue this year 2022/23, with new players joining the team. So let the adventure continue!



The Club, the FC Barcelona Foundation and La Masia are all working together on the Barça Foundation team

This is a totally cross-cutting project. It came about at the initiative of the Department of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, which works to promote integration and cultural, functional, generational, gender and sexual orientation diversity within the Club, and in the groups that are part of the Barça family. On the other hand, the Barça Foundation team fits perfectly with the strategy of the FC Barcelona Foundation.

La Masia also plays a crucial role. The Barça Foundation team trains every Wednesday at FC Barcelona's Ciutat Esportiva and plays its matches on Field 5. Like any other Barça team, the players of this team use the Ciutat Esportiva facilities and are assisted by the auxiliary staff of La Masia. This year, the coaching staff formed by Sergi Mascarell, Josep Ferré, Emilio Gómez, Beth Puigdesens and Tina Gonzalez added a goalkeeper coach, under the coordination of Jesús Unzué, and a new coach-psychologist, Nagore Ferrero. Forever in our memory, our beloved Francesc Martínez, Franchu.

COLLABORATING ORGANISATIONS

The Barça Foundation team collaborates with a group of institutions that work with people with functional diversity: Aura Foundation, Apinas Foundation, AMPANS, Sant Tomàs Foundation, Cassià Just - Cuina Justa Foundation and Penya Special Barça

AURA FUNDACIÓ. Helps improve the quality of life of people with intellectual disabilities through social and labour inclusion.

FUNDACIÓ APINAS. Improves the quality of life of people with intellectual disabilities and developmental disorders in the region of Anoia in Catalonia.

AMPANS. Accompanies and supports people with intellectual disabilities or in a position of vulnerability so they can develop their life projects.

FUNDACIÓ SANT TOMÀS. Improves the quality of life of people with intellectual disabilities or with developmental disorders in the Osona district in Catalonia.

FUNDACIÓ CASSIÀ JUST – CUINA JUSTA. Cffers training and work opportunities in gastronomy to people with mental illnesses and socially excluded people.

FUNDACIÓ VIACLARA. Provides people with support needs and/or a situation of vulnerability with a support model that enables the generation and development of their life project.

PENYA SPECIAL BARÇA. Part of the Barcelona School Workshop organisation, which focuses on the social and occupational integration of people with intellectual disabilities through social and occupational inclusion.

















WITH THE SUPPORT OF ALLIANZ

The insurance company, which is also one of the partners of FC Barcelona, sponsors the Barça Foundation team, who will wear their logo on the left sleeve of the team shirt

The FC Barcelona Foundation and Allianz have extended their collaboration agreement with the aim of continuing to build a more inclusive and diverse future. As a result of this new alliance, the insurance company is the main partner of the Barça Foundation team. From the 2022/23 season onwards, the Allianz logo will appear on the left sleeve of the team shirt in all its competitions.

The insurance company thus comes on board following the brilliant first season of the Barça Foundation team, which generated recognition and admiration after winning all three competitions in which it took part.

Off the pitch, through this action, the FC Barcelona Foundation and Allianz want to help raise awareness of the importance of integrating people with functional diversity through sport in general, particularly football. Allianz will participate in several social projects promoted by the Foundation in the areas of inclusion, diversity, and education, with the main aim of continuing to have a positive impact on society.





FUNDACIÓ BARÇA

These are the 27 boys and girls who make up the **Barça Foundation team's** squad. The coaches point out their main skills



sood footwork and consisency in work.









He has the goal stamp printed on him.



option, he is cunning and has good footwork.

Competes hard and shares. Willing to help the team with nis attacking play.



He tries as hard as he can and is unflagging in his search for a goal.



e is working on improving



lways with a smile.











ierenity and strength. He eads the game very well.





















Un porter al sevei de l'equip, responsable i treballador.









SERGI MASCARELL BARCELONA · 04/06/1972

Passionate about sport and personal training, football has always been part of his life. As a footballer, he made his début in the Second Division with Sabadell. He hung up his boots at the age of 31, but never quit the training work he had started when he was a teenager. He has a long resume as a coach and also experience with athletes with intellectual disabilities. He likes to "explore" and work with people that he can learn from, such as the Barça Foundation team players. "It's about enhancing their many virtues," he says. He lives in Vallgorguina, surrounded by nature. He is a natural therapist and a yoga teacher.



JOSEP FERRÉ BARCELONA · 26/11/1983

He was born in Barcelona, but his home is the town of Capçanes (Priorat), where he is a local councillor for sports. He has been training since he was a child and has been half way around the world. He has worked in Egypt, as head of the Barça school, and also in Hong Kong and Japan. He has coached in the leagues of Thailand, Puerto Rico and India. He has a degree in Physical Activity Sciences and is a certified professional coach (third level). In addition, he combines his work at the Barça Genuine Foundation with the bench of FC Ascó, in Group 3 of the Primera Catalana. Ferré, who is known as Coco because of his resemblance to the former Italian footballer who played for Barça, is a follower of the ideology of the German Horst Wein, a coach trainer.



EMILIO GÓMEZ BARCELONA · 09/08/1986

Despite his young age, he has accumulated many years of experience, on the bench and also in sports management. He started coaching when he was 16 years old, for different teams in the Maresme district and also at the Barça School. After that, football has taken him around the world: Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, China, Mexico, the United States, Chile and Switzerland. He has a Second Level Coach Diploma, a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Activity Sciences and a Master's degree in sports education and management. He is the funder of Footballaim, a management project for football clubs and coaches, together with David Villa. He returned home in 2018. Now, in addition to managing his company, he coordinates the Lleó XIII training centre.





TINA GONZÁLEZ VIC · 14/03/1973

She had her first contact with people with intellectual disabilities when, at the age of 16, she volunteered for leisure and sports. In fact, she was forced to give it up to start studying her psychology degree. Her first jobs as a psychologist were in different companies in the Osona region, in the field of human resources. Her experience in adolescence, however, made her redirect her professional life and she ended up working at the Sant Tomàs Foundation. She was the centre's psychologist for eight years and now she is the director of the Labour Area for the Disabled of this entity.



BETH PUIGDESENS VIC · 06/12/1972

Beth always puts her best foot forward in everything she does. Caring for people with intellectual disabilities fills her professional life, but she has done more. She is, for example, the founder of Club Patí Riuprimer, does therapy with animals, has worked in a home for the elderly as a psychologist and has done various sports since she was a child. Now she is a professional in clinical and health psychology. She studied her degree while combining her studies with her job, bringing up two children and managing the club she founded. She did her internship at the Sant Tomàs Foundation and reamined there afterwards. She currently manages the Riudeperes residence, one of the services of this entity.



JESÚS UNZUÉ PAMPLONA · 25/12/1993

He is the son of the much-loved Juan Carlos Unzué, Barça goalkeeper between 1988 and 1990. At the age of 10, when his father was part of Frank Rijkaard's coaching staff, he joined the Barca youth team and stayed there until he was a second-year youth player. After graduating in Physical Activity and Sport Sciences and qualifying as a specialist in goalkeeper training by the RFEF, he is currently training for the UEFA A title. He lived for a season in Charlotte (USA), and was part of the Barça School before returning to train the goalkeepers at La Masia, a job he has been doing for four seasons, two as a coordinator.

*Jesús Unzué is responsible for the goalkeeping area of the Barça Foundation Genuine team, where two other specialists, Cristian Lelli and Alex Sanchez, also work.



NAGORE FERRERO BARAKALDO · 22/04/1991

She has a degree in psychology, a Master's Degree in Psychosocial Intervention, and her professional career has always been focused on the social field. She has worked as a researcher at the university, in health projects for the elderly, and lived for one season in Poland, participating in volunteer projects with the Romany community. In any case, her main interest has always been the field of intellectual disability. Her mother, who is a specialist in special education, passed on her love for this profession and Nagore has enriched her knowledge in various organisations in the Basque Country and Catalonia, working on free time projects and in residential apartments.



WHEN WINNING IT ALL IS NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING They did not lose a single match and won LaLiga Genuine, the DICUP and The Original Challenge, but the most important thing about the fire

and The Original Challenge, but the most important thing about the first season of the Barça Foundation is its players' good personal development

Undefeated Champions of the three competitions in which they participated, with 12 wins and two draws, if this was any team, the assessment of their début season would deserve the highest score. But the Barça Foundation team is not just any team: its raison d'être is the integration of people with other abilities through football and, in this aspect, its first year's balance is also unbeatable.

"It's been a beautiful season, in all areas. It would have been even without winning this

tournament, but taking home another Cup makes us very excited," commented one of the members of the coaching staff, Josep Ferré, in Daytona (Florida), after the end of the regular season with the winning of The Original Challenge, the three-way competition with Orlando City and Nàstic de Tarragona that brought together inclusive teams from Europe and the Americas for the first time. Ferré was equally eloquent in Bilbao, a few weeks earlier, when Fundació Barça were crowned champions of the Compañerismo

LaLiga GENUINE & Santander GÉNUINE & Santander

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MILANZ (B) AMILANZ (B) CANADANA (C) AMILANZ (B) CONTANDER

SONTANDER

SONTANDE LaLiga GENUINE & Santander

group of LaLiga Genuine with nine wins out of nine. "In September we created the team, with great enthusiasm and with a whole world to discover. Every training session, every friendly match, every phase of LaLiga Genuine has been a learning experience for everyone, players and coaches alike. It has all grown very quickly and we are very pleased and satisfied. Not just because we've won games, but also because of how we've done it." he said.

FUNDACIÓ BARÇA

Beth Puigdesens, one of the team's psychologists, spoke along the same lines: "The boys and girls of the Barça Foundation have undergone great growth. They are people who came with lots of issues and being able to be part of a team like this, at a club like Barça, has made them grow a lot. Tina Gonzalez, Francesc Martínez and myself have given them psychological support, especially to control their emotions and impulses through personalised monitoring."

The voices of the dressing room

And what did the stars say? How did the players of the Barça Foundation team view this first season? What did they take away from it?

Abel Bau, for example, stopped being Abèlix after losing "50 kilos!". Wearing the Barça crest motivated him. Another of the goalkeepers,

Sergi Rodríguez, said that "as well as defending the goal, I now know how to defend a series of values". Kamal El Yachou, a tireless worker, learned to "work as part of a team". In addition to scoring a lot of goals, Miguel Chavarría understood what it means to "share and listen". Marc Povedano made a lot of progress with the ball at his feet and now finds it easier to relate to people. Amine Bachir, a brilliant and unpredictable striker, is no longer "as closed off as he was before". Salva Vidal, the scorer of the goal in the last second that brought home LaLiga Genuine, commented that he feels "more focused". Dani Rodríguez, a defender who is always well positioned, said that he no longer gets so angry and is more eager to do things. Guillem Anglès, just as he now dares to go forward with the ball out of defence, he also dares "to do things he didn't do before". Yenny Cabanillas proclaimed, with a smile on her face, that she has found "a spectacular family!" Montse Durà pointed out that, for her, the best day of the week had been Monday, "because that's when we train". Marc Cutillas was very happy because he now knows what offside is. And Marc Jiménez was the happiest he has been after travelling "to Malaga, Bilbao and the United States". Who could ask for more? To be continued.



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MOMENTS FUNDACIÓ BARÇA



FRIENDLY FOOTBALL MATCHES

During the times of the 2021/22 academic year in which there was no competition, the Barça Foundation team played 24 friendlies, mainly with teams from Catalonia, including eight Barcelona supporters' clubs. Most of these games were played at the Ciutat Esportiva, but there were also trips around the country.

THE WARMTH OF THE STADIUM

The players of the Barça Foundation team were presented to the fans on 13 March 2022, during the half-time break of the Barça-Osasuna match. Six months later, on 17 September, they presented the fans with the titles of LaLiga Genuine Santander, the DICUP tournament and The Original Challenge, before the Barça-Elche game.



FIRST INTERNATIONAL MATCH

The first international match for the Barca Foundation team took place on 5 May 2022, a friendly with Seignosse Capbreton Soustons FC, a team that brings together footballers from three towns in the south-west of France, and was part of the events for the European Month of Diversity organised by FC Barcelona.

MEETING WITH THE FIRST TEAM

On 13 May 2022, Xavi Hernandez and the footballers of FC Barcelona first team squad received and supported the boys and girls of the Barça Foundation team, before they travelled to Malaga to play the second phase of LaLiga Genuine Santander.









MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On 3 June, club president Joan Laporta spurred on the players of the Barça Foundation team before the final phase of LaLiga Genuine, which was played in Bilbao. "You have grown as people and your behaviour has always been exemplary, representing the Barça values in the best way," he told them.

THE AURA AWARD

The Barça Foundation team received an award from Aura Fundació as an inclusive project in its summer gala which, under the title 'La película de la teva vida' [The film of your life], was held at the Aribau cinema in Barcelona on 7 July. Aura is one of the main collaborators of the Barça Foundation team





LALIGA GENUINE AT THE MUSEUMU

"Today, Barça is more than a club, especially thanks to you," said club president Joan Laporta at the presentation of the LaLiga Genuine Santander trophy at the Club Museum by the players of the Barça Foundation team, which Marta Segú, the executive director of the Foundation, also attended.

THE THIRD CLUB SHIRT

A group of players from the Barça Foundation team, together with footballers from the men's and women's first teams, starred in the launch of the third FC Barcelona shirt for the 2022/23 season, the design of which is inspired by the Saint George's Cross.

FUNDACIÓ BARÇA







FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FUNDACIÓ BARÇA TEAM

What criteria was used to choose the players for the Barça Foundation team?

The competitive aspect is not ignored, but this is an inclusive sports project above all. Our players must be at least 16 years old and approximately 30 at most, with a recognised intellectual disability (ID) of at least 33%. They must also have two years of previous experience doing a sport, preferably football, and have sufficient autonomy to move around and travel. They must also belong to one of the entities with which the FC Barcelona Foundation has signed a Collaboration Agreement.

How were the players selected?

With the collaboration of seven organisations that work with the group of people with intellectual disabilities: Aura Fundació, Fundació Apinas, AMPANS, Fundació Sant Tomàs, Fundació Cassià Just-Cuina Justa,

Fundació Viaclara and the Penya Special Barça. In September 2021, 4 women and 20 men were chosen to play after a selection process in which the coaching staff of the Barça Foundation team also participated. In September 2022, 4 more men and 2 more women were chosen.

In which competitions does the Barça Foundation team take part?

In LaLiga Genuine, which this year takes place over four weekends in different parts of Spain and in the DICUP, the inclusive football tournament organised by FC Barcelona and its Foundation at the Ciutat Esportiva on one day in June. During the rest of the season, the Barça Foundation team plays friendlies, especially with teams from all over Catalonia (in many cases FC Barcelona supporters), but also with teams from elsewhere.



What is LaLiga Genuine and what are its aims?

A competition driven by LaLiga that aims to normalise the practice of football for people with intellectual disabilities, the commitment of professional football to an inclusive and socially responsible project, and the creation of a Genuine team at each LaLiga club. The Barça Foundation is committed to the creation of role models for people with intellectual disabilities.

Who can play in LaLiga Genuine?

Teams can be single or mixed categories (men and women) and must be made up of players over 16 years of age and with a minimum intellectual disability of 33 per cent, without limitation to foreign players.

What is the competition model?

It is played in the 8-a-side football format, in

games of 4 quarters of 10 minutes each. The final result is determined by the number of games won by each team. Each quarter they win is worth one point. If there is a draw in the quarter, neither team scores a point. The final result is obtained by adding up the points from the four quarters. Each match won is worth three points, a draw is worth two points and a defeat is worth one point.

How is the LaLiga Genuine played?

This will be the fifth season of LaLiga Genuine and it will be played in four phases (three matches in each phase), spread over four weekends, in different parts of Spain.

In which group will the Barça Foundation team play?

LaLiga Genuine is divided into three groups:
Deportividad, Compañerismo & Respeto
(Sportsmanship, Companionship and Respect).
Last season, the Barça Foundation team was champion of the Compañerismo group and this year joined the Deportividad group with the following teams: València CF, UD Almeria, CD Leganès, RCD Espanyol, Fundación Atlético de Madrid, Sevilla CF, Cadis CF, CD Tenerife, Fundación Celta Integra, Fundación Rayo Vallecano, Girona CF, CF Fuenlabrada and Getafe CF.



How are the friendlies and DICUP matches played?

In the 8-a-side football format, in games of 4 quarters of 10 minutes each. The final result is determined by the number of games won by each team. Each quarter they win is worth one point. If there is a draw in the quarter, neither team scores a point. The final result

is obtained by adding up the points from the four quarters.

Which teams take part in the DICUP?

The participating teams are made up of 16 people with a minimum age of 16 and with a minimum accredited intellectual disability of 33%. Of these 16 people, 6 must be women and/or have the following diagnoses: Down syndrome (DS), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Fragile X Syndrome (SXF), Williams Syndrome (SW) and/or Prader-Willi Syndrome (SPW).





















