

Tournament “Play Football for Peace” related to the UN Day of Peace

Moscow, Yuriy Gavrilin, September 23, 2018



The traditional football festival related to the International Day of Peace was held on September 29, in the Lyublino district, Southeastern administrative district of Moscow.

At the opening of the tournament “Play football for peace,” chairman of the NGO Universal Peace Federation Dmitry Samko told the audience about the main ideas of the project “Play Football for Peace” coordinated by him: expanding a culture of peace, tolerance and a healthy lifestyle among young people; respect for elders, hospitality and the spirit of noble rivalry.



The peculiarity of such tournaments under the motto “Play Football for Peace” lies in their social orientation. Surely, real sporting passions were seething on the football field, and the teams tried their best to win. But the traditional motto in such tournaments is: “The main thing is not victory, the main thing is participation.” After all, young people play football primarily for the sake of friendship and peace, bypassing language and social barriers.

It should be noted that holding such sporting events in Lublino has become a good tradition, popular among young people and adults, and this year in one of the teams, a father and his daughter played together.

Polina Batova, 16, captain of the Metallist team: “For my team, this experience was new, but despite all the difficulties, we really liked the tournament. This is a great opportunity for all football fans to get together on a day off and play. I liked it very much that they take in anyone; even our team with two girls was accepted without any problem, and supported by everyone. There was no bad language used at the tournament, which is also very nice. ”

Teams in 2 groups struggled to reach the semifinals. In the first semi-final, there was a fight between the Samolyot team from the LCD Lyubertsy and the Grasshoppers team. The main time ended with the score 1: 1 (the guests from Lyubertsy won on penalties). In the second semi-final, the Chertanovo team won over the White Guard team. In the consolation final, Grasshoppers won the 3rd place. The final ended with a score of 0: 0, and in the penalty shootout the guests from Chertanovo were luckier. Despite tense matches, the award ceremony was held in a friendly and formal atmosphere, and the tournament itself was held in full accordance with the main principle of FIFA “Fairplay.”



One of the main organizers, captain of the White Guard team, Sergei Getman, shared his impressions: “I don’t know which one in a series of the tournaments “Play Football for Peace” was held on that day. And this time – with participation of seven teams, to the whistles and cries of excited fans. Goals scored, medals handed out, we are waiting for the next tournament with great impatience.”

Mirzoaliev Usman, 20 years old, captain of the Grasshoppers team: “Thanks to all the organizers for the exciting tournament! I think everyone liked it. And thanks to my team for such a good game. Already the 3rd time we win the 3rd place. But next time we will try to play better.”