

Playing at grass roots level in Europe: Germany, England and France

This contribution is an account of first hand experiences of playing in three different countries in Europe from 1998 until 2013: Germany, England and France. It is based on personal memories and interviews with former team mates and coaches.

The situation of amateur football at this level in all three countries mentioned is the same and is concerned with similar problems: getting a team together for the season and each game respectively, finding sponsorship and finally playing football.

The largest part will be recounting in chronological order my career as a player who has not gone through a youth system but who came to play league football from a long distance running back ground.

The piece will highlight the history of the clubs and the teams and place them in the wider perspective of the local football scene.