



## OL, Ligue 1 economic leader

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The 2007-08 annual report published by the financial regulatory body of the French football league (*Direction Nationale du Contrôle de Gestion*) on 12 March has confirmed the economic performance of Olympique Lyonnais and its determining impact on the cumulative economic results of Ligue 1.

For the 2007-08 season OL, who prepare their consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS, as adopted by the European Union, accounted for a major share of the total Ligue 1 financial statements and remains the principal economic driver in the development of French football.

For the 2007-08 season Olympique Lyonnais accounted for:

- 64% of the cumulative net profit of the 20 Ligue 1 clubs, with €20.1m
- 50% of the net cash reserves of the 20 Ligue 1 clubs, with €100.5m
- 47% of the shareholders' equity of the 20 Ligue 1 clubs, with €164.8m
- 31% of the total amount spent on player acquisitions for the season, with €78.3m

### **Red Cross and OL Fondation partnership**

OL Fondation and the French Red Cross have set up a joint programme for the training of young sportspeople in first aid techniques.

A DVD to raise awareness has been produced in partnership with the Fondation du Football and involving international OL players Sidney Govou and Corine Franco.

3,000 DVDs will be distributed, including 1,500 to all amateur football clubs in the Rhône-Alpes league.

### **OL participation in the 2009 Peace Cup**

After the first three competitions held in South Korea, the fourth Peace Cup will be held in Spain from 24 July to 2 August 2009, in Madrid and four cities of Andalusia (Seville, Malaga, Jerez and Huelva).

This year there will be 12 (eight previously) teams in the competition, split into four groups of three, with the winners of each group qualifying for the semi-finals.

Nine clubs have already confirmed their participation including FC Seville, Real Madrid, Juventus, FC Porto, Aston Villa and Olympique Lyonnais from Europe, Liga de Quito from Ecuador, Seongnam Ilhwa Chunma from South Korea and Al Ittihad from Saudi Arabia.

OL, finalists in 2003 and 2005, won the 2007 competition, beating the English club Bolton in the final.



## OL GROUPE

### Highest TV audiences

For the current season OL has once again attracted the highest television audiences of any French club for the different broadcasters and in the various competitions:

- For TF1:  
In the Champions League: 8.1 million viewers watched the first leg of the last-16 round match between OL and Barcelona and 7.6 million watched the second leg.
- For Canal +:  
In Ligue 1: 2.9 viewers watched the match between OL and OM.  
In the Champions League: the match between OL and Fiorentina attracted a total of 2.3 million viewers.
- For France Télévision:  
In the Coupe de France: 4.9 million viewers watched the match between OL and OM.

These audiences confirm the ever-growing media impact of Olympique Lyonnais on all national and European competitions and reinforce its place as the 13th most popular club in Europe with 9.4 million fans, just ahead of Olympique de Marseille.

### Japanese teams at Gerland

As part of its international development and its bilateral relationship with the Japanese Football Federation, Olympique Lyonnais has hosted three youth teams, one girls' and two boys', from Osaka, Tokyo and Felice, for a training course. In addition to various friendly matches, the players from the Felice team acted as ballboys during the OL / Sochaux match on 22 March 2009 at Gerland.

### **OL – Duisburg, semi-final of the UEFA Women's Cup, live on OLTV and Eurosport**

The women's team will play the first leg of the semi-final in the UEFA Women's Cup at Gerland this Saturday, 28 March at 5 p.m. against the German team Duisburg. This match will be shown live on OLTV and Eurosport.

The second leg will take place in Duisburg on Sunday 5 April at 2 p.m.

Farid Benstiti's team, who will be competing in the semi-finals of the UEFA Women's Cup for the second consecutive year, hit the headlines in the two national competitions during the last week:

- in the League they have an eight-point lead with six matches to play before the end of the season after a brilliant 4-1 win away against Juvisy, who up to then were second in the table.
- in the Challenge de France they outclassed Saint Maur, winning 8-0 in the last-16 round, and will be at home versus Saint Etienne on 12 April in the quarter-final.



## OL GROUPE

### Youth teams make their mark

The OL U18 team have just qualified for the quarter-finals of the Coupe Gambardella after defeating Hagenau 6-0.

In the quarter-final OL will be at home against PSG on 5 April.

- **In the U18 Championship**, the OL team is in first place with a two-point lead over Montpellier, and a game in hand.
- **In the U16 Championship**, OL is equal first with Auxerre.

### Several OL players selected for national teams

Several OL professional and youth players will once again be playing this week for their national teams, for both France and other national teams.

#### **Professional players selected**

Karim Benzema (France)  
Hugo Lloris (France)  
Jérémy Toulalan (France)  
Fabio Grosso (Italy)  
Abdul Kader Keita (Ivory Coast)  
Kim Källström (Sweden)  
Jean II Makoun (Cameroon)  
Miralem Pjanic (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

John Mensah, who is injured, has travelled to Ghana to have his injury assessed by staff of the Ghana national team.

#### **Youth players selected**

Sébastien Faure (France U18)  
Clément Grenier (France U18)  
Thimothée Koldzieczak (France U18)  
Alexandre Lacazette (France U18)  
Nicolas Seguin (France U19)  
Yannis Tafer (France U18)  
Alican Dadaev (Russia U16)  
Ousmane Ndiaye (Senegal U20)

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