

JejuMUN XI

BACKGROUND GUIDE

EFL Championship Business Crisis

1 | The EFL Championship: Ensuring welfare and financial fair play of teams in the 24/25 Season

SDG: 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth

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Committee Introduction

The English Football League Championship is the second division of English Football. It is located in the second tier of the English football pyramid, the English Football League. While the Championship itself was established quite recently in 2004, the Football League First Division, which was later rebranded to the Championship, was established in 1892. The EFL Championship the oldest professional football league in the world and boasts an immense wealth of rich history. The current format of the Championship comprises 24 teams in total who play 38 matches each over the course of a season. At the end of the season, teams are either relegated, promoted, or remain in the league. The top 2 teams receive automatic promotion while the third to sixth ranked teams play additional matches in the 'playoffs' which follow a tournament format. The three lowest ranking teams are relegated to the English Football Championship League One. The EFL Championship Committee is a fictional board comprising representatives of a variety of teams in the league, reflecting the diversity of financial situations and football ability within the league. The committee is tasked with ensuring the quality of football, profitability, and player safety in the 2024/25 season, reforming the current system through the proposal and implementation of new rules and regulations, applying disciplinary action to non-compliant clubs, and potentially even reforming the format of the EFL altogether.

In this specialized committee, each delegate is placed in a place facing multiple intricate crisis updates that require individualistic or cooperative portfolio power to resolve. Delegates are expected to fully acknowledge their distinct backgrounds and portfolio power in order to engage in committee fully. For the delegates who are new to the crisis committee, delegates are able to resolve the crisis or drive the conference scenarios with private and public directives. Public directives are General Assembly resolutions, which represent the group's decision. Private directives are like a direct chat with the director, telling what your individual actions or plans are going to be. With the information written in this paper and extra research, each delegate should be aware that every character has their stances and powers. Delegates will utilize them to impose their actions apart from the group; however, it is under the director's discretion whether or not to prove your private and public directives. For the crisis updates, the director of the committee will use the delegates' private directive or use his/her discretion to propose crisis updates, which means that the prompt of the debate will be changing continuously.

We hope this committee introduction allows delegates to get to know what the crisis committee is. However, if you have any questions or concerns, please never hesitate to contact any of the chairs, whose emails are written in the Letter from the Chairs part. Also, more detailed information and rules for the crisis committee are stated in the Rules of Procedure document so that delegates can refer to it.

Agenda Introduction

With the season just over, players, staff, and fans return home to enjoy a well deserved rest. However, the offices of the newly established EFL Championship Committee are bustling with discussion on how to improve an already great league.

One significant issue that has come to light is the severe financial disparities within the League and the English Football Pyramid. Parachute payments awarded to recently relegated Premier League clubs provide a significant financial advantage, allowing them to maintain higher player salaries and superior facilities compared to their Championship counterparts. This disparity is further amplified by unequal TV revenue shares and the financial aftermath of Premier League relegation, which can cripple clubs without a cushion. Larger stadiums and greater matchday revenues also benefit recently demoted clubs, enhancing their financial stability and operational capacity. Despite efforts like Financial Fair Play regulations, which aim to promote financial parity, the influence of wealthy owners and substantial investments continues to skew competition in favor of a few select clubs. In essence, while the Championship remains a fiercely competitive league, financial disparities play a defining role in determining which clubs rise to the top and which struggle to keep pace.

Another issue that has revealed itself is fixture congestion. Fixture congestion has become a pressing issue in the EFL Championship, with numerous teams voicing concerns over player fatigue and injury risks. The demanding schedule, often exacerbated by cup competitions and rescheduled fixtures, places significant strain on squads, particularly those lacking the depth of Premier League staff. Players endure grueling schedules with little respite, leading to heightened injury rates and diminished performance levels. Talks of implementing a winter break have gained traction as a potential solution to alleviate these pressures. Advocates argue that a mid-season hiatus could provide players with essential rest and recovery time, reducing the likelihood of injuries and improving overall match quality. However, skeptics question the feasibility and impact of such a break on the already packed football calendar. The debate goes over the delicate balance between commercial interest, player welfare, and competitive integrity within English football leagues.

It requires a proper response, taking into account the legitimate treatment received by players in the English Football League, the values they pursue, and the conditions necessary for club management by club owners and club itself.

Letter from the Chairs

Dear Delegates.

Welcome to The EFL Championship Business Crisis Committee. We are Roy Song, Jung Woo Park, and Chris Song, who will serve as the director and chairs for this committee. First and foremost, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to serve as chair for this committee and be part of this invaluable conference.

All three of us believe that Model United Nations is an indispensable experience. Through our numerous experiences at MUN as a delegate and as a chair, we have come to cherish MUN as a platform for personal growth, stepping out of our comfort zones, and forming meaningful connections. As chairs, our ultimate goal is to offer delegates the same opportunity: we hope that each delegate will look back on this conference as a place where they embraced challenges, met new people, and found enjoyment throughout the process.

We fully acknowledge that MUN is an intricate activity that requires a multitude of skills, including public speaking, speech crafting, leadership, and research. Especially, the crisis committee adds another layer of complexity due to its fast flow of debate; however, we truly hope that every delegate gains more than just academic skills from this experience. We aspire for you to develop confidence, resilience, and a global perspective that will serve you well beyond the confines of this conference.

If you have any inquiries or concerns regarding this committee or the conference, please never hesitate to contact either of the three chairs through the emails provided below. We are here to support you and will do our utmost to address your questions and resolve any concerns. We are excited to see you all at JejuMUN XI

Sincerely,

JaeHoon Roy Song | Director | jsong26@pupils.nlcsjeju.kr

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Key Terms

Financial Fair Play(FFP)

A set of regulations established to prevent professional football clubs spending more than they earn in the pursuit of success, and in doing so not getting into financial problems which might threaten their long-term survival. FFP ensures clubs operate within their financial means. Implemented by UEFA, FFP requires club to balance their books, limiting the extent to which they can incur losses and ensuring that financial discrepancies do not undermine the sports' integrity and stability. Clubs must demonstrate financial prudence and sustainability, adhering to specific revenue and expenditure guidelines to participate in UEFA competitions.

Professional Footballers' Association(PFA)

The union for all current and former footballers and scholars in the Premier League, the FA Women's Super League and the English Football Leagues, the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) represents the interests and welfare of its members. It provides support on issues such as contract negotiations, legal matters, and career development, while also advocating for players' rights and working conditions. Additionally, PFA offers educational programs, financial advice, and mental health support to ensure the holistic wellbeing of footballers during and after their playing careers.

Transfer

The permanent sale of a player from one club to another. This process generally includes the purchasing club remitting a transfer fee to the selling club, negotiating and finalizing a new contract with the player, and fulfilling requisite registration and medical protocols. Transfers are primarily executed during specific periods known as transfer windows and may be either permanent or on a temporary loan basis.

Transfer fee

The money paid by one club to another to purchase a player of theirs. A club can accept, negotiate, or reject a transfer offer. This fee compensates the selling club for the player's contract and is often negotiated based on the player's market value, skill level, and potential in the case of prospects/youth players. The transfer fee is a crucial part of the transfer process and must be agreed upon by both clubs for the transfer to proceed.

Release clause

A sum of money, sometimes included in players' contracts, that when met by another team, leads to the automatic transfer of a player. This clause sets a predetermined fee that, if paid by a prospective club, compels the current club to allow the player to enter into transfer negotiations. This inclusion of a release clause provides players with an opportunity to move

clubs without prolonged transfer negotiations, while also ensuring the current club receives a specified compensation. It serves as a protective measure for both players and the club, establishing clear financial terms for potential transfers.

Loan

The temporary 'loaning' of a player from one club to another for a set duration of time. After the loan period has finished, the player returns to their previous club. During the loan, the receiving club often covers the player's wages and may sometimes pay a loan fee to the parent club. Loans can benefit both clubs and the player, providing game time and experience for the player while helping the receiving club fill short-term squad needs.

Loan fee

The money paid by one club to another to loan a player of theirs. A club can accept, negotiate, or reject a loan offer. The loan fee is agreed upon during negotiations and compensates the parent club for temporarily losing the player's services. This fee, alongside the player's wages, is typically covered by the receiving club, and it allows the parent club to benefit financially while the player gains valuable playing experience.

Relegation

Relocation of the worst performing teams to a lower division. Relegation is not permanent. Teams that finish at the bottom of their league standings are moved to a lower tier for the next season, where they compete with other teams in that division. The relegated teams have the opportunity to earn promotion back to the higher division by performing well in the subsequent season. This system maintains competitive balance and ensures that teams strive for excellence throughout the season.

Promotion

Relocation of the best performing teams to a higher division. Promotion is not permanent, as teams must continue to perform competitively to maintain their position in the higher division. Achieving promotion often entails finishing at or near the top of the standings in the lower division, thereby earning the right to compete against higher-caliber teams in the league above. This process encourages competition and provides an opportunity for clubs to advance to more prestigious levels within the football hierarchy.

English football league system(English football pyramid)

The English football league system, often referred to as the English football pyramid, encompasses 10 tiers of football leagues ranging from amateur to professional levels. At the top of the pyramid is the Premier League, followed by the English Football League (EFL) Championship, League One, and League Two. Below these professional leagues are

semi-professional and amateur divisions, each organized regionally and offering promotion and relegation between adjacent tiers. The pyramid structure allows clubs to progress through the ranks based on their performance, providing opportunities for smaller clubs to rise to national prominence while ensuring competitive opportunities across all levels of football in England.

The Football Association (FA)

The governing body of football in England and oversees all aspects of the sport within the country. It is responsible for organizing and regulating competitions at all levels, from grassroots to the national team. The FA establishes and enforces rules and regulations, promotes football development, and represents English football internationally through its affiliation with FIFA and UEFA. Additionally, the FA plays a pivotal role in promoting inclusivity, fairness, and the spirit of the game across England's diverse football community.

FA Cup

An annual knockout football competition in domestic English football organised by the FA. It includes teams from the first to ninth tiers of the English football pyramid, allowing lower-league clubs to compete against top-tier teams. The winner of the FA Cup earns not only the prestigious trophy but also a direct qualification spot for the UEFA Europa League, enhancing the competition's significance and appeal to clubs across all levels of English football.

Carabao (EFL) Cup

An annual knockout competition in men's domestic football in England sponsored by a company of the same name. It includes teams from the four tiers of the English football pyramid, providing an opportunity for clubs to compete in a shorter format tournament alongside their league campaigns. The winner of the Carabao Cup earns a place in the following season's UEFA Europa League, specifically entering the competition at the second qualifying round stage, enhancing its appeal and importance to participating clubs.

Play-offs

Series of matches held at the end of a league season to determine promotion, relegation, or other significant outcomes when teams are closely matched in the standings. Typically involving teams that finish near each other in the league table, play-offs provide a structured pathway for additional teams to achieve promotion or avoid relegation. The format varies but often includes semi-finals and a final match to decide the ultimate winner, with the victorious team securing the desired outcome, such as promotion to a higher league or avoiding relegation to a lower one.

Historical Background

1992 - Formation of the Premier League

- A mass restructuring of the English football hierarchy occurred following the creation of the Premier League.
- The English Football League became the second tier of the football pyramid.
- The English football pyramid in its current form was created.

2004 - Rebranding of the Football League

- The English Football League was rebranded.
- The 'First Division' became rebranded as the 'Championship'
- The EFL Championship was officially established.

2005 - Introduction of the Transfer Window

- The EFL Championship adopted the Fifa-mandated transfer window system.
- All teams were generally limited to the transfer windows to do business.
- Teams could not add players to their squad as frequently as before.

2011 - Financial Fair Play (FFP) Regulations

- Financial Fair Play(FFP) rules were introduced to the EFL Championship.
- Teams were limited in the amount of transfer expenditure and other investments in club operations.
- FFP ensured that teams would not overspend and protected teams against financial instability.

2014 - Introduction of the Emergency Loan System Cap

- Regulations were placed on the emergency loan system.
- The cap limited how many players teams could loan outside of the transfer window.
- Teams who faced player crises during the season could do very little to supplement their squad.

2016 - Abolition of the Emergency Loan System

- The emergency loan system was abolished altogether.
- Transfer business was strictly limited to transfer windows.
- Teams who faced player crises during the season had to wait until the transfer window was open.

2020 - COVID-19 Pandemic

- The COVID-19 Pandemic reached its peak.
- Matches were played without fans. Financial relief measures were put in place to support struggling clubs.
- Many teams in the Championship struggled financially, with Wigan Athletic going into administration and ultimately being relegated.

2021 - Implementation of Salary Cost Management Protocol (SCMP)

- The Salary Cost Management Protocol(SCMP) was implemented.
- A club's transfer expenditure could not exceed 60% or 50% of the club's turnover.
- Clubs were deterred from overspending, protecting clubs against financial instability.

2022 - Introduction of Multiball System

- The multiball system was introduced to the EFL.
- Stoppages during match time were reduced. Matches saw a notable decrease in breaks in between play.
- The quality of matches were significantly improved and made for a better viewing experience.

Current State of Affairs

The 2023-2024 EFL Championship was a thrilling season marked by fierce competition and a chain of surprising events. Leicester City clinched the Championship title and secured automatic promotion back to the Premier League. They finished the season with 97 points, showcasing a dominant performance throughout the campaign.

Ipswich Town also achieved automatic promotion, returning to the Premier League for the first time in 22 years under the management of Kieran McKenna. They finished just one point behind Leicester with 96 points. The playoff spots were claimed by Leeds United, Southampton, West Bromwich Albion, and Norwich City. These teams will compete for the final promotion spot to the Premier League the previous season, aimed to make an immediate return, highlighting the competitive nature of the playoffs.

Leicester City, having faced the disappointment of relegation from the Premier League last season, are gearing up for an immediate return. The club has managed to retain a core group of experienced players despite the departures of key figures like James Maddison and Harvey Barnes. Under the management of Enzo Maresca, Leicester City aims to implement an attacking style of play. New signings and emerging talents are expected to step up, positioning Leicester as one of the favorites for promotion.

Leeds United, another team relegated from the EPL last season, are under new leadership with Daniel Farke as their manager. Farke, known for securing promotions with Norwich City, brings hope to Leeds fans. The club has experienced significant player turnover, including the exits of Rodrigo and Raphinha, but has been active in the transfer market to build a competitive squad for the Championship.

Southampton FC, the third team relegated from the EPL is in a rebuilding phase under new manager Russell Martin. The Saints have seen the departure of several high-profile players but have also made strategic signings to strengthen their squad. Southampton's focus is on bleeding experienced players with promising young prospects to mount a strong promotion challenge.

Hull City, who finished mid-table last season, are looking to improve under the steady guidance of Liam Rosenior. The club has shown ambition in the transfer market, enhancing their squad depth with key acquisitions. Hull City's pre-season has been positive, with improvements in both defensive solidity and attracting creativity, fueling hopes of challenging for a playoff spot.

Sunderland AFC, after reaching the playoff semifinals last season, are determined to go further this time around. Managed by Tony Mowbray, the team has retained most of their key players and made targeted acquisitions to address weak areas. The club's supporters are

optimistic, buoyed by promising pre-season performances, and are hopeful of securing promotion.

Middlesbrough, another playoff contender from last season, are building on their success under Michael Carrick's management. The club has been active in retaining key players and bringing in new players to add depth and quality. Encouraging pre-season form suggests Middlesbrough are strong contenders for promotion this season.

Stances of Parties

Leicester

Aiyawatt Srivaddhanaprabha (Leicester City Chairman)

Following his club's recent promotion to the Premier League, Aiyawatt Srivaddhanaprabha is primarily focused on ensuring Leicester City's ability to adapt to a more financially demanding league. Srivaddhanaprabha supports measures to reduce the financial disparity between the EPL and EFL so that newly promoted clubs can be financially competitive. His position allows him to make key financial decisions at the club and negotiate with investors. Srivaddhanaprabha would focus on ensuring that EFL clubs are able to compete at the EPL level.

Steve Cooper (Leicester City Manager)

Previously an assistant manager at Manchester City, Steve Cooper is known for his high-intensity pressing style of football. His physically demanding tactics means that he sees the importance of measures to reduce excessive physical strain on players. Cooper's position allows him to make key tactical decisions and act as a spokesperson for the club. Having been appointed after Leicester's promotion this year, Cooper's main focus would be to retain their place in the highest tier of English football.

Alan Tate (Leicester City Assistant Coach)

Having retired in 2021, Alan Tate has taken up youth coaching roles and advocates for the integration of young talents into the first team squad. Having a lot of experience helping younger players develop, Tate understands the importance of player welfare, both mental and physical to development. His position allows him to influence tactical decisions and create training regiments. Tate works closely with Cooper, serving as his main advisor.

Dr. Simon Morris (Leicester City Head of Medicine)

Having worked over 20 years as a team doctor across various sports, Dr. Simon Morris is an expert in sports medicine. During the Covid-19 pandemic, Dr. Morris developed and implemented the Club and Community wide Mental Health Strategy which helped promote mental health support for players. His role would allow him to make key medical decisions and voice concerns over player health and wellbeing. Dr. Morris would focus on ensuring that players aren't physically and mentally overburdened throughout the season.

Leeds

Paraag Marathe (Leeds United Chairman)

Paraag Marathe is the Chairman at both Leeds United and the San Francisco 49ers, an American football team. Marathe wishes to promote Leeds United back to the Premier League following their relegation in 2023. Marathe is tasked with stabilizing club finances after their failure to achieve promotion. His position enables him to make key financial decisions (given appropriate discussions with investors). Marathe is focused with securing a quick and efficient path back to the EPL.

Daniel Farke (Leeds United Manager)

Having failed to achieve promotion last season, Daniel Farke has been placed in a transfer predicament, in which the sale of key players may be necessary to balance the books. Farke however has experience with promotion, having led Norwich to the Championship title on two different occasions. His position allows him to not only make key tactical decisions, but also to publicly raise concerns about the management of the league on behalf of the club. Farke shares the Leeds United board's ambitions to gain promotion back to the EPL.

Eddie Reimer (Leeds United Assistant Manager)

Having worked extensively with youngsters, Eddie Reimer believes in the development of young players for the first team. From his experiences as a player, Reimer understands the importance of mental health and resilience for developing players. His position allows him to influence key decisions, especially regarding training and man-management. Reimer would work closely with his counterpart, Manager Daniel Farke.

Southampton

Henrik Kraft (Southampton Chairman)

Since taking over as the chairman of Southampton F.C. in 2022, Henrik Kraft has focused on modernizing the club by diversifying revenue streams by using digital platforms. He believes that innovation and strategic investments are crucial to achieving long-term success. Kraft has heavily invested in transfers, aiming to build a stronger squad capable of pushing Southampton into the Premier League's top 10. His position allows him to shape key financial decisions and negotiate partnerships to strengthen the club. Through bold actions and a clear vision, Kraft is determined to elevate Southampton's performance on and off the pitch.

Russell Martin (Southampton Manager)

As the manager of Southampton F.C., since 2023, Martin has brought a high-intensity style of football that has proved successful, ultimately leading to the club's promotion to the Premier League. He believes in pressing football and player adaptability as key elements for success. Aware that Championship clubs often operate with limited budgets, Martin is cautious with investments, preferring to focus on developing existing talent. His tactical

flexibility allows him to adjust strategies based on team strengths. As manager, Martin's ability to influence squad development and match strategy is crucial to Southampton's competitive growth in the EFL league.

Steve Wright (Southampton Head of Medical Services & Physiotherapy)

With 24 years of postgraduate experience and 22 years in elite sport, Steve is Southampton F.C.'s Head of Medical Services and physiotherapy. He believes in proactive injury prevention and tailored conditioning as essential to maintaining peak player performance. Wright's expertise in sports science drives his approach to rehabilitation and athlete care. His extensive experience allows him to influence player health strategies and recovery programs, ensuring the squad's long-term fitness. Wright's close relationship with the coaching staff ensures that medical decisions are aligned with team performance goals, playing a vital role in the club's overall success.

Hull City

Acun Ilicali (Hull City Owner)

As the owner of Hull City, Acun Ilicali is deeply committed to the club's success, providing substantial financial backing for transfers and infrastructure improvements. He believes that investing heavily in both the squad and the club's facilities is key to long-term success. Ilicali's hands-on approach is evident through his active involvement in club operations and frequent engagement with fans, which reflects his belief in building a strong community around the team. With his position as owner, he has the power to influence major financial decisions and shape the club's future direction.

Tim Walter (Hull City Manager)

As Hull City's manager, Tim Walter brings his experience from managing Bundesliga second teams, where he developed a possession-based, attacking style of play starting with build-up from the back. He believes in maintaining control of the game through patient and structured ball movement. Walter has openly recognized the challenge of fixture congestion in the Championship and is focused on finding ways to manage player fatigue while maintaining his tactical approach. With his position as manager, Walter influences both team strategy and player development, ensuring his methods align with Hull City's competitive goals. His past success with similar tactical approaches underscores his confidence in overcoming the Championship's challenges.

Sunderland AFC

Kyril Louis-Dreyfus (Sunderland AFC Chairman)

Kyril Louis-Dreyfus prioritizes sustainable investments and long-term growth. He believes in financial responsibility and advocates for increased solidarity payments and fairer TV revenue distribution to promote greater financial parity across the Championship. His focus on profitability and stability, however, has drawn criticism from those who feel it comes at the expense of immediate on-field success. With his position, Louis-Dreyfus has the authority to direct the club's financial strategies and negotiate league-wide policies, aiming to ensure Sunderland's future both on and off the pitch. His actions reflect a deep commitment to the club's long-term viability.

Regis Le Bris (Sunderland AFC Manager)

As the newly appointed manager of Sunderland AFC, Regis Le Bris has been tasked with leading a young and relatively inexperienced squad. Despite this, he remains confident in the team's potential, believing that player development will be key to long-term success. Le Bris plans to blend the youthful talent with a few experienced signings to create a balanced and competitive side. With his role as manager, Le Bris has the authority to shape the squad's training and tactical approach, aiming to nurture young players while ensuring immediate performance. His focus on growth aligns with Sunderland's long-term vision.

Middlesbrough

Steve Gibson (Middlesbrough Chairman)

Steve Gibson, the second richest person in the North East of England, has led Middlesbrough for over 20 years. Under his leadership, the club has seen both promotion and European competition. Steve Gibson has a strong ambition to see Middlesbrough return to the European stage, and he actively supports financial measures with his wealth to enable Championship clubs to compete at a higher level. His long-term vision and strategic investments reflect his belief in the importance of financial stability and competitive integrity. As chairman of Middlesbrough, Gibson can leverage his financial resources and strong ties with other club owners to push for policies that manage the playing field between Championship and Premier League clubs.

Michael Carrick (Middlesbrough Manager)

Michael Carrick is a former Manchester United player, and he has brought success to Middlesbrough by leading them to the semi-finals of the FA Cup. His experiences as a player, especially dealing with a heart condition, have given him a prior understanding of player welfare and health. Carrick believes in balancing performance with health, advocating for policies that promote better physical and mental care for players. His relationship with players and staff allows him to influence decisions on player welfare and team management, and his reputation as a tactician adds a gravity to his arguments in committee discussions on fixture congestion and club rotations.

Journalists

Fabrizio Romano (Football Journalist)

Fabrizio Romano is a football journalist, known for his fast and accurate reporting on transfer deals. His ability of announcing transfers before clubs and players underscore his deep network of connections in the football world. Romano's influence extends beyond simple "reporting." His insights often shape public opinion and their perceptions of club strategies and transfer policies. With his detailed knowledge of negotiations and deals, Romano can provide key information to the committee, especially the news related to financial transparency and transfer regulations.

David Ornstein (Football Journalist)

David Ornstein is a senior football writer for The Athletic, an online hub for sports news. He is renowned for his deep knowledge of tactics and reliable reporting of club affairs. Ornstein's expertise in analyzing strategies and club dynamics forms his reputation as a respected figure in football journalism. His reporting often highlights foundational issues within clubs, making him a valuable source of insight for committee discussions on competitive fairness and financial regulation. Ornstein's comprehensive knowledge of the sport allows him to offer informed commentary on the effects of fixture congestion and player management.

Gianluca Di Marzio (Football Journalist)

Gianluca Di Marzio is an Italian football journalist and transfer expert working for Sky Sports. He is known for his reliable reporting on transfer business and club strategies. His journals mainly concentrate on the financial measures of football, particularly how clubs manage their budgets during transfer windows. Di Marzio's expertise in the mechanics of player transfers and financial dealings allows him an important voice in discussion on Financial Fair Play (FFP) regulations and transfer caps. His reports often reveal key strategies that clubs use to navigate financial challenges, providing the committee with invaluable insights into managing transfer-related issues.

Henry Winter (Football Journalist)

Henry Winter is an English sports journalist who currently works for World Soccer, having occupied the position of Chief Football Writer at The Times. Winter works as a pundit and is known for his knowledgeable commentary on football matters. As a Chief Football Writer at The Times, Winter provides a unique perspective on both the on-field and off-field aspects of football. Winter's commentary touches on player welfare, club finances, and the overall state of the football industry. His influence as an expert allows him to shape public

opinion and provides the committee with expert analysis on the challenges faced by multiple clubs.

Possible Solutions

Resolving Broadcast Revenue Inequality between EPL and EFL

Imbalance of broadcast revenue between EPL and EFL has been issued for such a long time. In order to address those inequalities, increasing solidarity payments from the Premier League to EFL clubs might be a viable solution. Solidarity payments, which are funds distributed by the EPL to lower-tier clubs, can be augmented to ensure that EFL clubs receive a larger share of the broadcast revenue that could bring up the public interest to EFL. Additionally, expanding the EFL market by marketing to a global audience can generate additional revenue streams. Compared to EPL, EFL is highly limited, which means that average revenue between EFL and EPL would get severed as the disparity of popularity prevails. By promoting EFL matches internationally through social media, streaming platforms, and partnerships with foreign broadcasters, EFL clubs can attract a larger fan base, thereby increasing their revenue from merchandise sales, sponsorship deals, and international broadcast rights that would promote growth of each club.

Implementing a Winter Break and Increasing Squad Sizes

Fixture congestion, the overload of matches in a short period, is a problem that each sports team faces due to scarcity of rest, probability of injury, and congested schedules. Fixture congestion can be alleviated by implementing a winter break. This break would provide players with essential rest, reducing fatigue and injury risks, thereby improving individual player's condition and performance. On the other hand, increasing squad sizes can allow for better rotation and rest for key players. Larger squads enable teams to manage the demands of a congested schedule more effectively, providing opportunities for younger players to gain experience and ensuring that main players are adequately prepared and rested.

Enforcing Stricter FFP Regulations and Transfer Caps.

Financial instability in football often arises from clubs overspending on player transfers and wages. Financial instability leads to unsustainable debt levels. In order to address this problem, stricter Financial Fair Play (FFP) regulation can ensure that clubs operate within their financial means, promoting long-term economic growth and stability; these regulations enforce transparency and accountability in club finances. Besides, introducing transfer caps—limiting either the number of players a club can sign or the total transfer fee expenditure—can maintain financial stability. Transfer caps encourage clubs to focus on internal talent development and strategic, responsible signings, fostering a more equitable and competitive nature of sport.

Questions to Consider

1. How should non-FFP compliant clubs be punished?
2. What response will supporters have to a decreased/increased amount of fixtures?
3. What benefits do cooperation with other teams for trade bring?
4. How can the use of press or press releases be strategic to the committee and making specific deals.
5. What guidelines should be established for the clubs to effectively manage their budgets and avoid financial overspending?
6. How can the transparency in financial dealings including sponsorships be guaranteed?

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