

# Bundesliga makes an impact: DFL publishes first sustainability report on German professional football

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**The Bundesliga and Bundesliga 2 are firmly anchored in social life in Germany: 43 million football enthusiasts and 2.3 million members in the parent clubs of the 36 professional clubs make professional football an important actor in the country — one that is also actively addressing sustainability issues.**

The first sustainability report on German professional football, now published by the DFL, highlights substantial progress in recent years. All 36 clubs in the Bundesliga and Bundesliga 2 now have a sustainability strategy in place and employ a dedicated sustainability manager. In addition, around 80 percent of the clubs publish their own sustainability report, strengthening transparency.

With a resolution adopted in 2022 to integrate sustainability criteria into the licensing regulations, the DFL General Assembly underlined that responsibility for resources, society and future generations is understood as part of the management mandate. In this context, the Sustainability Commission was established, bringing together representatives from ten clubs and the DFL. Since then, it has helped intensify dialogue on ecological, economic and social sustainability and drive the transformation process forward in a targeted manner.

The first edition of the sustainability report shows clear progress in the areas of climate and environment. Today, 80 percent of the electricity used by clubs comes from renewable sources, and 15 clubs already rely entirely on green electricity. Furthermore, all clubs now account for their greenhouse gas emissions, creating a reliable basis for individual measures — particularly regarding fan travel to and from matches. All clubs actively promote sustainable mobility for fans through the planning and implementation of dedicated initiatives.

The DFL's first sustainability report demonstrates that clubs and the league assume social responsibility in many different ways.

Marc Lenz, DFL Managing Director

In the area of stakeholder engagement and social responsibility — long shaped by individual activities at many club locations — all clubs have appointed fan officers responsible for inclusion and diversity. Moreover, all clubs offer discounted tickets for selected groups, such as people with disabilities, apprentices and students.

“A great deal has happened in recent years: we see that the growing integration of sustainability into professional football has led to concrete progress,” says DFL Managing Director Marc Lenz. “The DFL's first sustainability report clearly shows that clubs and the league are assuming social responsibility in a wide range of ways.”

Further focus areas and initiatives

In addition to an overview of developments in recent years, the sustainability report provides a concise summary for each club, outlining how sustainability is being implemented in an individual and tailored way. It also includes a compilation of league-wide measures through which the DFL pursues a holistic approach. These include programmes and dedicated matchdays against discrimination, racism and antisemitism, as well as initiatives promoting social cohesion. In particular, through the DFL Foundation, programmes supporting education and democracy, as well as encouraging physical activity among children and young people, are implemented.