

2010 FIFA World Cup™

MRL Newsletter



Edition #47 - 9 July 2010

MRL DAILY BRIEFING RECAP

- The JSC gates will open at 14:30 on Sunday, six hours ahead of the Final. MRLs are advised to plan on heavy traffic and that access control checks will be implemented further away from JSC and the IBC than usual.
- Aerial coverage of the Closing Ceremony is being closely coordinated to be as lightly affected as possible by the planned air show.
- The Closing Ceremony will be covered on the ESF and World Feed, from 18:35 to 19:15. The actual Ceremony countdown begins at 18:43. HBS will produce an exceptional extended EBIF Show, beginning 60 minutes before kick-off. The World Feed satellite distribution will be extended on Sunday to meet MRL needs. It will be available from 18:30 to approx. 20 minutes after the trophy is awarded.
- There will be a full dress rehearsal of the Closing Ceremony today, also at 18:43. Like the Opening Ceremony, it will be available on the IBC CATV system as well as on the ESF. This footage is for informational purposes only and is absolutely not to be used in any MRL broadcasts.
- All regular lighting in JSC will be shut off between 18:40 and 19:15. This has been taken into account in the allocation of pitch-side services.
- The third place match in Port Elizabeth/Nelson Mandela Bay tomorrow will be followed by an approximately 5-minute award ceremony.
- Fabio Cannavaro, Italy's 2006 FIFA World Cup™-winning captain, will bring out and display the FIFA World Cup™ Trophy (in a Louis Vuitton carrying case) to the JSC spectators ahead of the Final, at approx. 20:12. This will be featured on the ESF coverage.
- Please note that all unilateral cameras and cameramen must be in their positions by 19:30, one hour before the Final, in order for FIFA and HBS to be able to fill all available positions.
- HBS Booking will confirm all allocations for M64 by 16:00 today.
- The special "Final" sticker will be available from MD-1, only at the JSC Broadcast Information Office (BIO). This sticker will be needed to access all points beyond the JSC turnstiles.

EIGHT DOWN, TWO TO GO...



Woman of the Match: Durban BVM Yvonne Briggs

As the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ draws to a close and stadiums host their final matches, it is a timely moment to look back on the operations carried out at the ten venues. "During the operational phase, the Broadcast Venue Managers (BVMs) are the first point of contact for FIFA and the LOC for broadcast-related matters," explained Gary Shaw, Head of Venue Management. "They therefore need to be aware of everything HBS does in terms of production, unilateral services and everything 'behind the scenes', such as power, telecoms, information distribution etc..."



A fully staffed HBS House in Port Elizabeth/Nelson Mandela Bay

Wednesday saw Durban host its final game and BVM Yvonne Briggs has been pleased with the success of the project at her venue. "The preparation in Durban has had its challenges, but I feel fortunate to have a very strong HBS team here and a good relationship with the FIFA and LOC teams. People are your most valuable commodity, and with good people you can achieve anything." That relationship was epitomised by a friendly football match played between HBS, FIFA and the LOC.

"The best aspect of the role of BVM for HBS is being involved in every aspect of the World Cup," revealed Anna Berg, BVM at Port Elizabeth/Nelson Mandela Bay, the location of the 3rd/4th place match. "We get to work with all groups, making every effort to ensure host and MRL needs are met. It's satisfying to watch the years of planning become reality and to see the compound full of vans and broadcasters."

With just two venues still operational, the BVMs who have already completed their mission have also been reflecting on a job well done. "Things went well here at Bloemfontein," explained Fausto Pighin, BVM for the Free State location. "We had challenges, but a strong relationship with FIFA and the LOC that was built over the last two months meant we worked together to find solutions."

The Free State Stadium was used for four matches during the FIFA Confederations Cup last year and that experience certainly helped make things run smoothly for the FIFA World Cup™. "The continuity of management allowed us to hit the ground running. We really did pick up from where we left off in 2009." That is not to say there were not a few challenges to overcome. "A relatively late transformation from a rugby venue in early May to a FIFA World Cup™ venue in under a month required detailed planning. Thankfully, over a period of many months, HBS coordinating BVMs and Venue Technical Managers (VTMs) had plotted everything from camera platforms to office layouts," Fausto concluded.



BVM Fausto Pighin and the Venue Management team in Bloemfontein

CLOSING CEREMONY BRIEFING DETAILS

A special briefing regarding the Closing Ceremony of the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ was held by FIFA, the LOC and VVV yesterday. Below are some of the main points from that briefing:

- The themes of the Closing Ceremony are twofold: the tournament returning to Soccer City after symbolically being sent throughout the country during the Opening Ceremony a month ago as well as a more general celebration of both the 2010 FIFA World Cup™ and its host, South Africa.
- A rundown of the Closing Ceremony will be available on the FIFA TV Extranet shortly, as will biographical information about the performers. It is not expected that a script will be provided.
- Six musical performances by African and international artists will be featured during the Ceremony.
- There will be no speeches before or during the Ceremony.
- FIFA and HBS will endeavour to make a list of VIPs in attendance available as rapidly as possible.
- MRLs are reminded that any and all information about the Closing Ceremony is under a strict embargo until the commencement of the Ceremony. FIFA, the LOC and HBS ask that this embargo be respected in order to preserve the element of surprise.