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GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK



RESULT SPORTS 2022 CLUB RELEASE 8TH EDITION



GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK

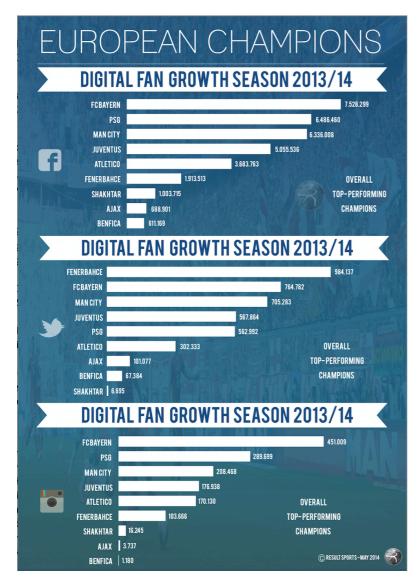
elcome to the RESULT Sports Global Football Digital Benchmark, where we feature all football clubs from around the world with more than 1 million followers across the respective and official social media platforms. We started our journey in 2010 to monitor and accompany the evolution of communities and followers across social media platforms in Sports and observed the huge impact and receive significant global reputation for the work, especially for our benchmarks.

2022 is a little different to the years before, as we enhanced our Global Football Digital Benchmark. For the first time, we combine all evolution, tables and many more information into a single document to increase the readers benefit.



THE GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK 'EARLY DAYS'

As previously stated, RESULT Sports started to monitor the evolution and growth of social media platforms in 2010. Originated in Germany we released a monthly newsletter and later the Digital Sports Media magazine. The magazine included all social media rankings, interviews and case studies. It became very fast obvious, the social media platforms were determined to stay and the relevance and adoption would be constantly growing, which is valid until today for the majority of platforms. In 2014 the first branded posts and sponsors appeared in content from sports organisations and the new revenue stream was enabled. Social Media became a strategic part of the overall communications and marketing mix for athletes clubs, leagues and federations. And this was the first time our Global Football Digital Benchmark was published.



The first edition featured the five major social media platforms in 2014, which were at the time: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+ and YouTube. Growth in 2014 has been huge across all platforms.

Nowadays next to impossible, as algorithms and regulations from platforms do limit growth. The newcomers, such as TikTok enable a huge impact and community growth, because it is in the natural interest of the platform to enable official and verified pages to 'show' its huge relevance in the active user base of the platform.

In the following years the Global Football Digital Benchmark was steadily.



2018 ONWARDS

Clubs around the world appreciated the annual overview and benchmark between their own social media community, the rival clubs, but more importantly to see, how each club community compares to clubs abroad, near and far.





As the social platform presence, with official profiles from clubs steadily increased, we decided in 2018 to enhance the GFDB to cover/ feature more social platforms and since then steadily increased number integrated into this benchmark ever since.

RESULT Sports aims to ensure or enable all club social media responsible or club executives to receive a direct comparison on any other club.

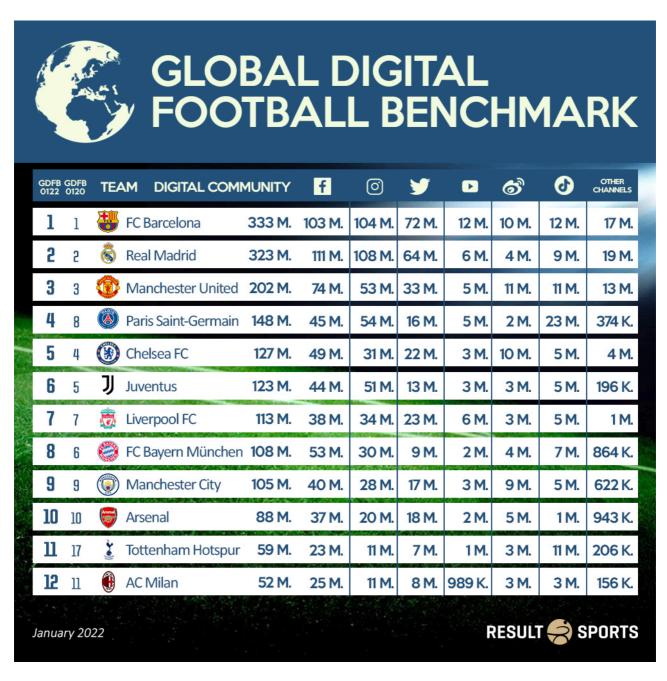
The global football interested audience uses a number of different platforms to follow the favorite club or even clubs. TV Broadcasting of major leagues into every corner of the world

enabled the clubs of the respective league to reach users and when they liked what thy saw, the 'like' or 'follow' was just a simple click away.



THE 'EUROPEAN' TOP12

Eight years onwards, two years heavily impacted by a global pandemic, we present the 8th Edition of our Benchmark. 248 football clubs from each continent of the world entered the 2022 edition. Criteria: A club enters the benchmark with more than one million likes or followers across the individual and official social media presence. Six platforms have been identified as major platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, SinaWeibo and TikTok. Sixteen 'other platforms', including Flickr, LinkedIn, LINE, Naver, Twitch, SoundCloud, vKontakte and many others are featured in the combined "Other Channels" column. With 22 social media platforms featured, this is one of the leading social media benchmarks around the globe.



GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - TOP12 FOOTBALL CLUBS



There has been tremendous movements within the Top12 clubs. Overall, the Spanish giant FC Barcelona maintained the lead with the largest social media community. Followed by domestic rival, Read Madrid with overall 323 million followers. In third, with a gap of more than 120 million followers resides Manchester United.

Paris Saint-Germain ('PSG') made huge headlines during the summer 2021, signing Lionel Messi from FC Barcelona, Sergio Ramos from Real Madrid, Gianluigi Donnarumma from AC Milan after an exceptional EURO2020, plus keeping stars like Neymar Jr, Kylian Mbappé and many others. This enabled the social media communities for a steep rise, climbing from 8th rank in 2020 into 4th place in our 2022 edition, pushing Chelsea FC (now 5th) and Juventus (now 6th) one place down. Liverpool FC was able to pass FC Bayern Munich and sits with 113 million follower in seventh place. Manchester City in 9th and Arsenal in 10th kept their places from previous benchmark to this one, while Tottenham Hotspur was able to significantly climb in the benchmark from 17th to 11th rank, mainly with a huge growth on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. AC Milan rounds up the first visual and the Top12.

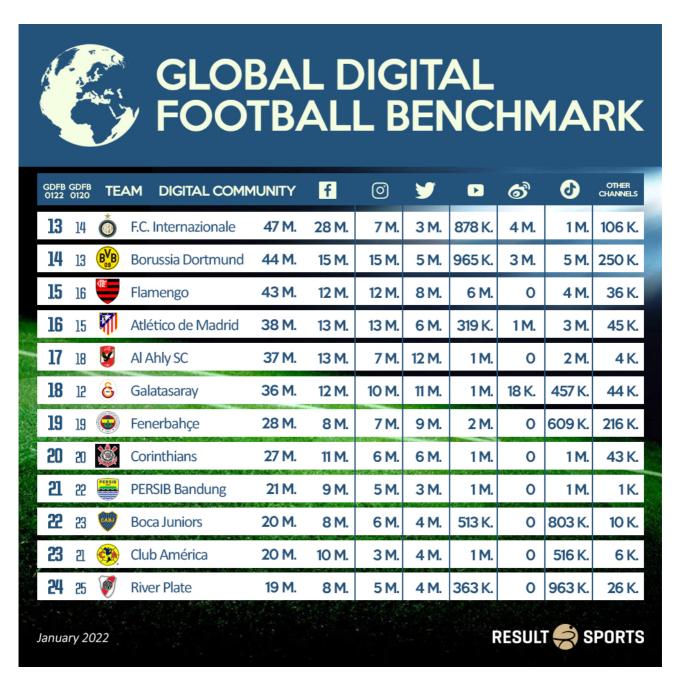
'GLOBAL CLUBS' IN THE PURSUIT

All of the Top12 clubs of this benchmark reside in Europe. They have become, of course with the huge assistance of social media, global brands and globally known and followed football clubs. But already in our second visual we feature clubs from South America, Asia and Africa, cumulating social media communities of more than 19 million follower each.

Flamengo, the giant football club from Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, is the first club breaking the European dominance in 15th position, just behind Borussia Dortmund and ahead of Atletico de Madrid, cumulating 43 million follower. With one key difference to European teams - Flamengo and the majority of South American teams have no presence on any of the Chinese Social platforms, like SinaWeibo, WeChat, Toutiao, YouKu or others - European teams in the top places tend to have million of followers already gathered on the platform and the absence from Flamengo is one main reason, why the club has not yet entered the Top10.

Al Ahly SC, current African Champions League Champion and leading African club from Cairo in Egypt, closing in on Atletico de Madrid move into 17th position, ahead of Turkish and Istanbul giants, Galatasaray (18th) and Fenerbahce (19th).





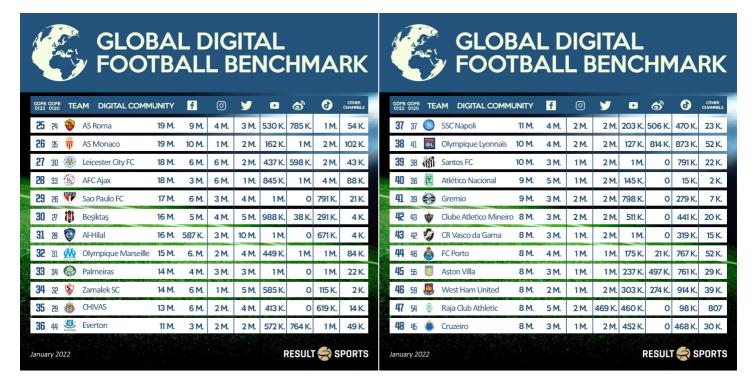
GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - TEAMS 13 TO 24

Corinthians, second Brazilian club overall in 20th, ahead of the first Asian club, coming from Indonesia. PERSIB Bandung, more than 21 million followers across Facebook (nine million), Instagram, (five million), Twitter (three million) and just passed the first million followers on TikTok.

Boca Juniors, passed in the days before our data uplift the Mexican giant Club America, to move into 22nd position, is the first of two Argentinian clubs in the Top24. River Plate, city rival of Boca Juniors, from Buenos Aires rounds up the first two tables of our Global Football Digital Benchmark.



FOOTBALL CLUB RANKING - 25 TO 72



GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 25 TO 36

GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 37 TO 48

First Chinese Club, Guangzhou in 49th position. Wolves (Premier League, UK) with a big jump, moving from 102nd in January 2020 to 52nd in January 2022. Kaizer Chiefs, best club from South Africa (57) and Kerala Blasters, prime in India (65). Simba SC from Tanzania improved from 151st to 72nd with its huge Instagram community.

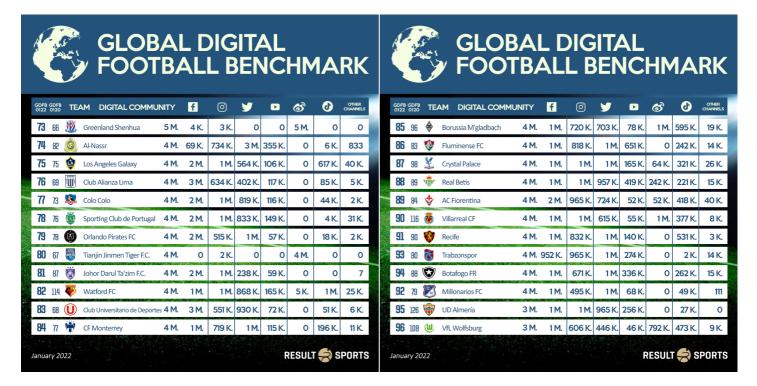


GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 49 TO 60

GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 61 TO 72



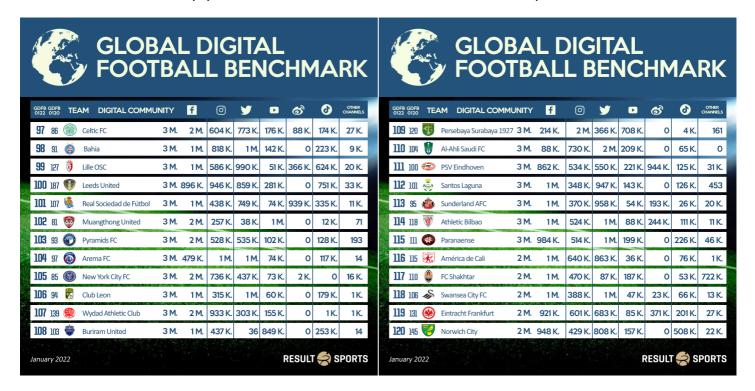
FOOTBALL CLUB RANKING - 73 TO 120



GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 73 TO 84

GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 85 TO 96

Club Allianza Lima (Peru) & Colo Colo (Chile) drop a few places, but remain in Top100. Leeds United & Watford FC (both BPL, UK) grow their communities significantly, climb with UD Almeria (Spain) and VfL Wolfsburg from German Bundesliga into Top100. Chinese Clubs drop places, 'miss' the international social media platforms.

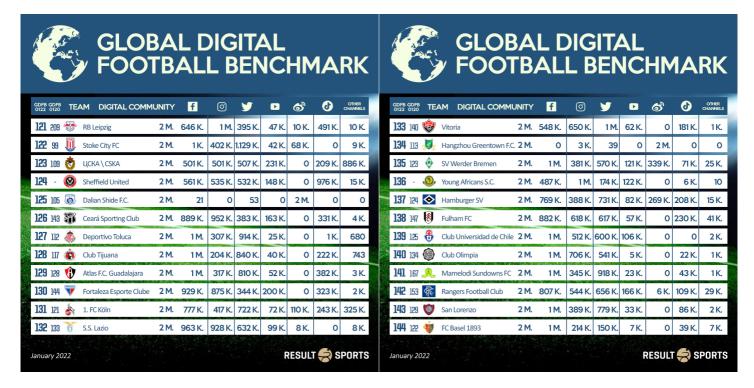


GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 97 TO 108

GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 109 TO 120



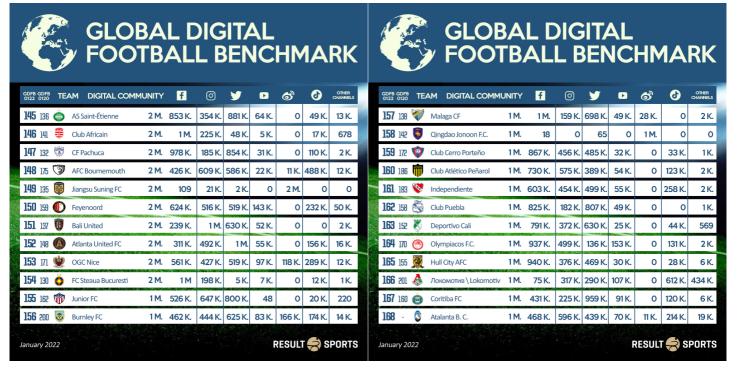
FOOTBALL CLUB RANKING - 121 TO 168



GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 121 TO 132

GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 133 TO 144

RB Leipzig, rising 'star' in the German Bundesliga, sits on top of this section, clubs ranked from 121 to 168. And we also welcome new entries, who have managed to pass the one million follower social media communities milestone: Sheffield United (EFL,UK in 124), Young Africans from Tanzania (146) and Atalanta Bergamo from Serie A in Italy.



GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 145 TO 156

GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 157 TO 168



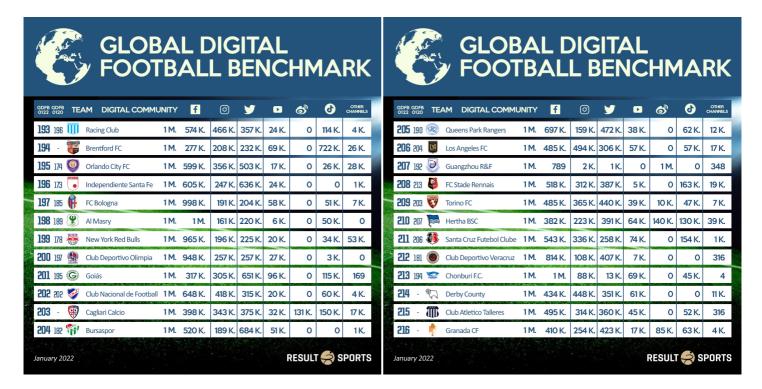
FOOTBALL CLUB RANKING - 169 TO 216



GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 169 TO 180

GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 181 TO 192

From Indonesia, Sriwijaya FC (169) to India, Chennaiyin FC (170), continuing to Europe, with Red Star Belgrade (172) from Serbia and Legia Warszawa (173), domestic champion in Poland and a lot of new entries, amongst some African clubs, like Azam FC (179) from Tanzania and Esperance Tunis (189) from Tunisia.



GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 193 TO 204

GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 205 TO 216



FOOTBALL CLUB RANKING - 217 TO 248





GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 217 TO 228

GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 229 TO 240



GLOBAL FOOTBALL DIGITAL BENCHMARK - 241 TO 248

Plenty of new entries in our final three visuals, featuring the clubs from 217 to 248, from all parts of the world: Europe, North and South America, Asia and Africa. The Social Media Evolution is constant, culturally we observe the relevance of certain platforms declining and others step into the space to capture the audience with new features and functionalities, while in maturing regions, the internet access is used to establish a profile on the 'older' giants, Facebook and Twitter. Rounding up our Global Football Digital Benchmark is Red Bull Salzburg, the first Austrian Club to enter the prestigious RESULT Sports 'millionaire club'!



2021 POST ANALYSIS FOR GLOBAL CLUBS

And to increase the value of our RESULT Sports Global Football Digital Benchmarks, we have reviewed and analysed the posting strategy for clubs on major social platforms during the 365 days in the past year (2021).

For this global benchmark we did review the following teams





























And their published post strategy on the following platforms











RESULT Sports aims to cover a 360degrees Social Media approach by athletes, clubs, leagues and federations. The innovative footballs chosen above have already identified the strategic adjustments on publishing exclusive content on each platform. The global pandemic around us increased the social media requirement, as lockdowns from fans made social media the only path directly to fans and the interested audience.

In order to enable a direct comparison between the clubs, we structured the analysis in three main categories:

- Number of published public Posts
- Total engagement in 2021 and average engagement per post

The analysis is only a small snapshot of a global benchmark, which RESULT Sports leads with his in-house monitoring.



NUMBER OF PUBLISHED PUBLIC POSTS

PLATFORM/ CLUBS	f		y	TikTok	You Tube	TOTAL # OF POSTS
	2,567	1,605	7,546	261	480	12,459
	2,474	1,198	5,672	203	232	9,779
	5,034	4,202	8,030	259	541	18,066
	1,750	1,479	7,263	183	418	11,093
	2,373	3,277	6,811	82	547	13,090
JUDENTUS	2,288	1,368	5,946	143	277	10,022
TIME TO SERVICE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF	3,808	3,414	6,835	110	283	14,450
	2,088	1,774	7,128	148	252	11,390
	2,373	3,257	8,463	307	535	14,935
Arsenal	2,519	1,833	4,321	40	325	9,038
®	7,588	6,184	14,261	386	492	28,911
	3,429	1,423	2,782	112	264	8,010
	4,714	3,740	8,412	98	349	17,313
PERSIB	4,594	2,226	4,712	364	216	12,112



TOTAL ENGAGEMENT PER PLATFORM

PLATFORM/ CLUBS	f	0	y	S	You Tube Views
FC B	240,560,404	1,545,472,963	145,684,530	64,924,460	382,921,037
	145,713,607	895,841,466	44,644,169	39,807,175	87,146,037
	279,985,592	1,867,499,789	247,219,867	86,318,221	244,740,672
	55,815,901	943,068,459	88,998,889	112,975,350	202,982,532
	113,392,883	879,087,403	99,975,253	23,740.964	212,941,284
J	39,415,768	429,098,648	28,773,315	28,494,277	99,603,606
W. S.	102,705,497	745,409,918	139,732,577	19,399,169	239,864,544
	19,760,591	395,508,117	53,502,860	26,014,289	102,350,551
	55,958,519	405,563,090	79,133,146	37,907,930	166,220,162
Arsenal	91,212,790	249,045,694	33,903,529	4,256,911	106,856,200
P	49,401,682	632,648,424	81,874,130	13,546,295	132,092,160
	102,213,774	83,003,361	10,504,832	7,344,796	3,203,640
	19,857,197	266,338,790	27,994,458	2,629,127	51,724,592
PERSIB	29,270,324	146,621,902	5,154,928	10,024,982	75,149,984



AVERAGE ENGAGEMENT PER PLATFORM & POST

PLATFORM/ CLUBS	f	0	y	TRYOK	You Tube Avg. Views/ Video
FCB	367,941	1,555,787	122,224	248,753	797,752
	241,797	1,133,506	39,806	196,094	375,629
	297,881	1,110,571	129,641	333,275	452,386
	51,904	661,215	30,034	617,352	485,604
	64,825	387,271	66,484	289,524	389,289
J	61,475	464,957	41,771	199,261	359,580
TOVI TOXI	65,236	503,619	137,805	176,356	847,578
	9,465	211,905	40,280	175,772	406,153
THE PARTY OF THE P	104,126	142,377	53,584	123,479	310,692
Arsenal	36,586	203,176	45,989	106,423	329,803
® '	6,471	102,304	5,741	35,094	268,480
	29,809	58,330	3,776	65,579	12,135
	4,212	71,214	3,328	26,828	148,208
PERSIB	6,371	65,868	1,094	46,412	347,917



GLOBAL FOOTBALL CLUB ANALYSIS SUMMARY

As you can see from the provided analysis and benchmark, there are significant cultural/regional differences and approaches by the clubs taken.

Quite obvious is the fact, South American Football Clubs publish a higher ratio of posts on social platforms, especially there output on Twitter is huge. This does lead to saturation for the audience and on average a lower average engagement per Tweet.

The overall life span for the highest engagement for a tweet is currently calculated at 24 minutes, as of our in-house crawler - only 1% of the tweets have a longer 'relevance' for the audience. Only a lower tweet amount does increase the relevance for a tweet.

YouTube got the task in Africa to improve relevance, as the majority of African football clubs have their lowest numbers on the video platform. Bandwidth and data is of course a relevant topics, as many mobile operators still keep data in a 'walled garden' with a bigger financial burden for the users and fans.

The European football clubs publish the content with a strong emphasis on the community, the fans and interested audience. Non-Matchday related content is aimed to be published at the right time, to the right audience on the ideal platform. This fancentric approach enables the best responses and highest engagements for the club.

Digital Media, Social platforms and algorithms are a constant evolution, therefore it is critical to observe the target audience preferences. Very often cultural experiences vary between the a domestic fan and a fan far away from the club - this needs to be considered, in order to achieve a growing organic reach and organic engagement.

Social platforms will always offer the possibility to boost a post, enable a campaign, because that is the business model of the platforms. The advantage of Sports, especially football is the huge global interest around the globe.

Therefore Marketing funds should be spend wisely and dedicated KPIs should be developed, of not regional, then at least for key markets/ countries.



FINAL WORDS

We hope you enjoyed the level of details and broadness. Our aim is to enable a transparent and direct apple-to-apple comparison across all social platforms and the entire global football clubs.

Digital Media is a constant evolution! It requires a data driven and fan centric strategy to achieve a high(er) level of relevance towards the global fan base and interested audience/ community.

RESULT Sports accompanies athletes, clubs, leagues and federations with digital strategy, KPI driven content and community evolution, identifying recurring formats to enable new revenue streams with digital assets and formats. And most importantly RESULT Sports is a platform, where experience and know-how are transferred to the partner and lectures given at business schools and universities around the world. Don't hesitate to reach out, if you have any questions or recommendations for RESULT Sports. We would be delighted to hear from you on info@result-sports.com.

