

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 61 (1995)
Heft: [9]

Artikel: Federal Councillors on the move
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-945081>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 08.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR GOOD OLD SOCCER?



Hooliganism amongst British Soccer supporters is well known throughout the world. But, sad to say, this dark side of soccer has also crept into Switzerland.

That tempers can flare in big National League matches, where big money and players' careers are at stake, is understandable to a point. But what is far more worrying and disconcerting is that hooliganism, fights, pitched battles and physical assaults on referees now occur in matches right down to the 5th division where soccer matches are supposed to be played just for the fun of it. There is no money at stake, no multi-million career in danger, just a couple of village soccer teams having a friendly game on a Sunday afternoon watched by a few friends and relatives. That's the way it used to be. Of course, everyone was critical of the result, especially if your team lost, and everyone agreed that the referee was a nitwit. But soon the matter was forgotten over a game of cards and a Kaffi Schnaps.

Today even the small village soccer match seems to become a world shattering event, in the eyes of the participants at least, where even the slightest disagreement must be put right immediately by means of a free for all brawl pitching one team with its supporters against the other side and everybody together against the poor referee who, after all, only gets a mere \$50.00 for his

trouble of wasting a whole Sunday afternoon.

Sundays used to be quiet days for the Swiss police force. But no longer. Once quiet country police stations report that their usual Sunday activity is now to break up fights at some obscure little soccer matches where, invariably, they have to escort the referee off the field and take him away in an armoured car for his own protection.

Who cares if Hinterhundswil was beaten by Unterkatzenwangen, the result would probably not even appear in the local rag, but for the participants and their supporters, this match seems to become a matter of life and death. What happened to the good old Swiss sense of proportion, of fair play and sense of humour?

According to the insurance companies, soccer in Switzerland accounts now for more accidents and injuries than skiing for instance. In 1994, soccer produced some 48,000 casualties against 35,000 from skiing and 9,000 from tennis, squash and badminton combined. The insurance companies paid out 127 million SFR for soccer injuries against 23 million SFR for all other ball sports put together. In one year alone, over 60 referees had been physically assaulted.

All this can only be another result of the violent society which we are forced to live in.

FEDERAL COUNCILLORS ON THE MOVE

In 1994 the seven Federal Councillors have clogged up 71 visits to 33 foreign countries lasting a total of 158 days. Champion traveller amongst them was Jean-Pascal Delamuraz (Minister for the Economy) who totalled up 15 trips just by himself. The least travelled Councillor was Kaspar Villiger with only 2 trips to his name.

WE OFFER THE BEST FARES
FOR TRAVEL TO/FROM

SWITZERLAND

plus:
FAST, FRIENDLY AND
EFFICIENT SERVICE

Phone or write in
English/French/German to:
HEINZ SIGERIST

TRAVELAIR INTERNATIONAL LTD.

P.O. Box 37-335, Parnell,
Auckland
Phone: 64-9-377 3285
or 309 4500
Fax: 64-9-302 1099