The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russian Billionaire Pays Off Football Union's Debt to Coach Fabio Capello

June 23, 2015



Russia's coach Fabio Capello reacts during their international friendly football match against Belarus at the Arena Khimki stadium outside Moscow.

Billionaire Alisher Usmanov has given the Russian Football Union (RFS) 300 million rubles ($5.56 million) to pay salary arrears owed to the coach of the national team, Fabio Capello.

Italian Capello took over as head coach in July 2012 before having his contract extended until the end of the 2018 World Cup, which Russia will host.

"As a member of the Russia 2018 Local Organizing Committee Supervisory Board, Usmanov decided to give financial help to the RFS to the tune of 300 million rubles," Usmanov's press service told the R-Sport news agency.

"Ahead of the 2018 World Cup, the question regarding the head coach is of great importance for the national football team."

The RFS was not immediately available to confirm the payment.

Usmanov, who according to Forbes magazine is Russia's richest man with an estimated fortune of $14.7 billion, earlier this year loaned the RFS 400 million rubles ($7.41 million) on favorable terms to help pay Capello.

Russia were beaten 1-0 at home by Austria in their Euro 2016 qualifier earlier this month and are third in Group G with eight points after six matches.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2015/06/23/russian-billionaire-pays-off-football-unions-debt-to-coach-fabio-capello-a47598